

# AMERICAN JOURNAL OF INSANITY,

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## ARTICLE I.

*Fright a frequent cause of Insanity, and sometimes a cure.*

"Verum, ubi vehementi magis est commota metu mens,  
Consentire animam totam per membra videmus  
Sudores itaque et pallorem existere toto  
Corpore, et infringi linguam, vocemque aboriri;  
Caligare oculos, sonare aures, succidere artus;  
Denique concidere ex animi terrore videmus  
Sepe homines."

LUCRETIVS.

The more common effects of fear upon the human system are well known. The action of the heart is diminished, paleness ensues, the pulse becomes small, weak or irregular, and the secretions are suppressed or deranged. When the fear is extreme, or of long continuance, then more dangerous effects arise, such as convulsions, epilepsy, insanity or death.

But when no immediate bad effects are observed from fright, we cannot feel confident that no injury has been done, as we have good reasons for believing that not un-

frequently great fear, lays the foundation for nervous affections that grievously afflict persons for life; predisposing them to alarming disease, such as epilepsy or mental derangement. So dangerous occasionally are the consequences of fright, that we believe a good service may be done to the community, by calling attention to the subject, and warning all persons, of the extreme hazard of frightening others, and especially children and youth, and the feeble and delicate.

Human passions and feelings are nearly the same in all ages and nations, hence we find the ancients were well acquainted with the dangerous effects of fear. Demetrius informs us, "that some persons have been so terrified, and alarmed by a sudden whirlwind, as to forget their past transactions: and that Artemidorus the grammarian, being terrified by the unexpected appearance of a crocodile, was so much disordered by the fright, that he even forgot all that he had learned." See a deplorable history of insanity from terror, terminating in suicide, in Boerhavi's Relection. Academ. de Morbis Nervorum, tom. 11. Hoffman relates a case of insanity from terror, in a woman after lying-in; Vide *Hoffm. Consult et Respons. Med. cas.* 37. *Operum*, tom. IV. p. 64.

Plater relates the following case, in his *Obs. lib.* 1 p. 36. "Some young girls went one day a little out of town, to see a person who had been executed, and who was hung in chains. One of them threw several stones at the gibbet, and at last, struck the body with such violence as to make it move, at which the girl was so much terrified, that she imagined the dead person was alive, came down from the gibbet, and ran after her. She hastened home, and not being able to conquer the idea, fell into strong convulsions and died."

Similar instances have occurred in all ages and among all nations, even among the most cruel and barbarous.

Thus we find an instance related that occurred among the "*Thugs, or secret Murderers of India.*" It is so interesting that we will quote it from the testimony given by one of this gang of murderers who was admitted as kings evidence in 1831.

"*Feringea.*—About twelve years ago my cousin Aman Subahdar took out with us my cousin Kurhora, brother of Omrow, approver, a lad of fourteen, for the first time. He was mounted upon a pretty pony, and Hursooka, an adopted son of Aman's was appointed to take charge of the boy.

We fell in with five Sikhs, and when we set out before daylight in the morning, Hursooka who had been already on three expeditions, was ordered to take the bridle and keep the boy in the rear out of sight and hearing. The boy became alarmed, and impatient, got away from Hursooka and galloped up at the instant the signal for murder was given. He heard the screams of the men, and saw them all strangled. He was seized with a trembling, and fell from his pony; he became immediately delirious, was dreadfully alarmed at the sight of the turbans of the murdered men, and when any one touched or spoke to him, talked about the murders, and screamed exactly like a boy who talks in his sleep, and trembled violently if any one spoke to him or touched him.

We could not get him on; and after burying the bodies, Aman and I, and a few others, sat by him while the gang went on; we were very fond of him and tried all we could to tranquilize him, but he never recovered his senses, and before evening he died. I have seen many instances of feelings greatly shocked at the sight of the first murder, but never one so strong as this. Kurhora was a very fine boy, and Hursooka took his death much to heart, and turned Fukeer; he is now at some temple on the bank of the Nerbudda river.

Writers on Mental Diseases have narrated cases of insanity and idiocy produced by fear. Pinel says, that, "two young men, brothers, were carried off by the conscription, and, in the first action in which they were engaged, one of them was shot dead by the side of the other. The survivor was instantly struck with perfect idiocy. He was taken home to his father's house, where another brother was so affected by the sight of him, that he was seized in the same manner; and in this state of perfect idiocy, they were both received into the Bicetre. I have formerly referred to various examples of this condition supervening on bodily disease. In some of them the affection was permanent; in others it was entirely recovered from."

Ellis in his Treatise on insanity has given the two following cases.

"A melancholy instance of the sudden effect of terror happened a few years ago in the north of England. A lady had gone out to pay an evening visit, at which she was expected to stay late. The servants took advantage of the absence of the family to have a party at the house. The nurse-maid, in order to have enjoyment without being disturbed by a little girl who was entrusted to her care, and who would not remain in bed by herself, determined upon frightening her into being quiet. For this purpose she dressed up a figure, and placed it at the foot of the bed, and told the child if she moved or cried it would get her. In the course of the evening the mother's mind became so forcibly impressed that something was wrong at home, that she could not remain without going to ascertain if anything extraordinary had occurred. She found all the servants dancing and in great glee; and on inquiring for her child, was told that she was in bed. She ran up stairs and found the figure at the foot of the bed, where it was placed by the servant, and her child with its eyes



intently fixed upon it, but, to her inexpressible horror, quite dead."

"A case occurred within my own observation, where insanity was the immediate consequence of fright. A woman was walking through the market of a town in Yorkshire with her husband, and seeing a crowd, she went to learn the occasion of it, when a large dancing bear, which a man was showing the public, suddenly turned around and fixed his fore-paws upon her shoulders. She became dreadfully alarmed. She was got home as soon as possible, but the excitement was so great, that she could not sleep, nor could anything persuade her but that the bear was every moment going to devour her. At the time I first saw her which was some months after the occurrence, she was in the most pitiable state of distress, obstinately refusing all food, which she thought was only given to her to fatten her, for the bear. She got no sleep, and was in great terror from hearing the noise of the *steam engine*, which was near the ward in which she was placed. She was removed into another, out of the sound, as she imagined of the grumbling of the bear, and she afterwards slept better. She was kept alive for nine months by food being forced into the stomach, but never without having to overcome all the resistance she could possibly make. In the end she became consumptive and died."

He adds, "In these, and similar cases, the immediate effect of the sudden shock upon the nervous system is to diminish the action of the heart; and where death is the result, this action entirely ceases. When the shock is not so violent as to cause an entire stoppage, the heart gradually resumes its functions; but the circumstances which caused the shock continue vividly impressed upon the mind, and produce excessive action in the brain; and we find in these cases, after the first effect

has subsided, the same watchfulness and excessive sanguiferous action in the brain, which accompany insanity when it arises from any other moral cause. The manner in which idiocy is brought on, is of more difficult explanation. It is probable that in these cases the brain sustains, from the sudden retreat of the blood, some physical injury, which is never afterwards recovered; but after all our surmises, we must acknowledge our ignorance of the precise mode in which the senses act, so as to produce such powerful effects."

The following cases are but a part of those that have fallen under our own observation.

1st. R. D. A young lady aged 20 years was admitted to the State Lunatic Asylum at Utica, February, 1846, having been more or less deranged for four years. Her insanity was caused as follows: Her father who was a violent and intemperate man, quarreled with another, and threatened to shoot him, and at the same instant a gun was fired. His daughter, then 16, became immediately senseless, and though she soon recovered from this state, her mind ever after remained affected. When she came to the Asylum, she was in a partially cataleptic state, did not move or speak, and remained in this condition about one year, when symptoms of consumption came on, and her mind was partially restored. She spoke a little, but exhibited no more mind than a child four years of age. The disease of the lungs increased, and she died in April 1847.

2nd. A. S., a single woman, aged 22, admitted to the Asylum, March 1847. Had been deranged six weeks. Supposed cause, fright—from some one firing a gun into the house while she was left alone, and as she supposed to shoot her. She was very melancholy, taciturn and slept poorly, and eat but little after she came, but nothing seemed to dispel her settled melancholy and timidity.

In June her bodily health began to fail, cough supervened and she died of consumption, in the month of August following her admission.

3rd. A. E. A married lady, admitted to this Asylum, August 1846, aged 52, having been deranged several months. Supposed cause, being told (erroneously however) by a physician in whom she had great confidence, that a sore she had was a cancer. She became much alarmed and agitated, and disposed to talk constantly about the supposed cancer. Soon she neglected all business, slept but little, and her appetite failed. After this, religious despondency occurred, and when she came to the Asylum, she was in a state of religious despair. She refused all nourishment, and was fed by means of the stomach tube, but diarrhea ensued and she became quite feeble and died in two weeks after admission, with symptoms of effusion upon the brain.

4th. E. T. A married woman, aged 27, admitted to the Asylum, August 1845, having been deranged four months. Supposed cause, *fright* from lightning that struck very near her. She was soon noticed to be mentally deranged and disposed to kill herself. When she came to the Asylum she wept much, and opposed all means for her relief or comfort, but soon by the use of the warm bath, tonics, and narcotics, she began to improve, and at the end of six months was considered about well, and left the Asylum to take charge of her family. We were some fearful that she was not entirely restored, but have heard nothing from her since.

5th. A widow-lady aged 38, admitted to the Asylum, January 1845. She had been disordered in mind for fifteen years, or ever since the day subsequent to her marriage, when she was accidentally thrown into a river and came near being drowned. She is variable in her feelings and conduct. Sometimes quiet and peaceful,

but at others violent and dangerous. She sleeps poorly, and is we apprehend incurable.

6th. S. S. A young man, admitted to the Asylum, April 1843, aged 17, having been deranged eight months, in consequence, it is supposed of a fright, which occurred as follows: He was one of a party of lads who undertook to *hoot*, or *horn* and disturb a wedding party. Further, he was threatened with immediate arrest and prosecution, which so alarmed him, that he at once became deranged. He improved soon after he came to the Asylum, and in about two months, left apparently well, but on returning home he soon relapsed, and has ever since remained deranged and is probably incurable.

7th. S. T. A young man aged 20, admitted to the Asylum, October 1846, having been deranged a year and a half, in consequence of extreme fear, caused by being called into court to testify against some persons whom he had seen break into a store. Vengeance was threatened if he testified against them, and one witness in the same court, had been arrested for perjury. All this caused him to be greatly alarmed as he was naturally timid, and in a short time he became deranged in mind, could not sleep, and was in constant terror, for fear of being carried off to prison.

His friends journeyed with him and tried in various ways to dispel his alarm, but nothing proved of any avail and we fear he is incurable. He is now quiet, but not disposed to do or say anything, and will remain seated all day if left to himself.

8th. D. R., aged 16, has recently been admitted into the Asylum, having been deranged but a few weeks, in consequence it is believed of fright. A person dressed in *grave clothes* like a corpse, ran after this lad and other boys to frighten them in the evening. The next day he was noticed to be deranged in mind and some feverish,

and has remained very dull, rarely speaking, and taking no interest in whatever is going on around him. He has however improved some and we indulge strong hopes of his recovery.

In concluding this part of our subject, we add, that our experience leads us to believe that insanity from fright, *is very frequently incurable*, though we know it is not uniformly so.

We mentioned in the title given to this article, that fright sometimes *cured* insanity. Dr. Rush says, "I once advised gentle exercise upon horse-back, in the case of a lady in Virginia who was deranged. In one of her excursions from home, her horse ran away with her. He was stopped after awhile by a gate. The lady dismounted, and when her attendants came up to her, they found her, to their great surprise and joy, perfectly restored to her reason; nor has she had since, the least sign of a return of her disease. A fall down a steep ridge, cured a maniac of twenty years continuance. Dr. U. Smith of Georgia, informed me, that a madman had been suddenly cured in Virginia, by the breaking of a rope, by which he had been let down into a well that was employed as a substitute for a bathing-tub. He was nearly drowned before he was taken out. The cures in all these cases, were effected by the new actions induced in the brain, by the powerful stimulant that has been mentioned. In the use of it, great care will be necessary to suit its force to the existing state of the system."

In the *Medico-Chirurgical Review* for October 1837, is a case quoted from a Prussian Journal, of confirmed insanity cured by sudden fright. It is as follows:

"A man between 30 and 40 years of age, had been from the year 1827 to 1831 affected with an extreme degree of insanity, amounting almost to idiocy, and alternating with periodic fits of raving madness. His condi-



tion bordered on bestiality and none dared to approach him in his maniacal paroxysms. His case was deemed quite hopeless and for the following two years he vegetated, so to speak, in the public lunatic house of the place. A fire having accidentally broke out near his cell, his mental powers, which had so long slumbered, suddenly were aroused; and Dr. Ollenroth, upon visiting him a few days afterwards, found him intelligent, and assiduously occupied with some domestic arrangements. He had no recollection of his former condition. All that he remembered was simply that, on the approach of the flames, he felt himself seized with an indescribable sense of anxiety, that he sprung up from his bed, and that he suddenly regained his intelligence."

The following is an instance selected from the case book of this Institution.

S. D. S., a young man aged 25, became insane in 1844. The disease came on gradually without any obvious cause, but he finally became violent and it was determined to bring him to this Asylum. His friends set out with him and on the way stopped a short time at the *Falls of Niagara*, and took him to see them. He was greatly terrified and frightened at the sight of them and soon after appeared to have regained his reason. He was however brought to the Asylum and left, but not appearing to be insane he returned to his home in three weeks.

## ARTICLE II.

*Illustrations of Insanity furnished by the Letters and Writings of the Insane.*

1. N. Y. Was acquitted of the crime of Burglary on account of insanity, and sent to this Asylum. Many believed he was not insane when he committed the burglary as he appeared intelligent, had never been excited nor acted as if crazy. He probably would not have been acquitted but for the production in court of his Memorandum Book or Diary which he had kept for several years and in which, mixed with regular accounts of his expenditures it was repeatedly stated that, "he had a right to the whole world and all that was in it, and that he was acting in obedience to the commands of the Almighty, whose especial agent he considered himself to be." These delusions he supported by the most absurd quotations from the Bible.

He has been at the Asylum a year and a half, always pleasant, civil and calm, but insisting that he has committed no crime and maintaining the correctness of his views.

The following letter to the Governor will further explain his case.

*Utica Asylum, Oneida County.*

March 2, 1847.

DEAR SIR: I take the liberty to solicit your Excellency and the Managers of the Utica Asylum, that I may be liberated from the Asylum, and with due consideration I should think that my liberation rests chiefly at your option in conjunction with the Managers of said Asylum, and my liberation also rests at the option of Mr. — and in conjunction with Mr. B—— who brought me here, and I never

have committed any act against the said persons except that which I had a perfect right to do, that the Scripture might be fulfilled according as I stated in the letter which I wrote to the Post Master General about a year ago, and it is the command of the Almighty God, to enable me to prove that the Scripture is fulfilled by me according as I stated in the said letter. And I was allowed by the authority of Almighty God to go into the store in the manner in which I did, that there might be a more competent proof that the Scripture is fulfilled by me, and I have never taken anything out of said store, yet still they continue to refuse to liberate me. You and the Managers of said Asylum would therefore do me a just and honorable favor by liberating me as soon as possible without any hesitation, and my business also requires my liberation as soon as possible.

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2. Mr.—aged 30, been deranged two years ; supposed cause, disappointment in business and loss of property. Is a very muscular, powerful man and at times when excited very violent and dangerous. Occasionally he is calm and to a good degree rational, but any conversation relating to his former condition is apt to excite him. Writing to his friends has the same effect as will be seen by the following letter.

Utica, 1847.

DEAR BROTHER AND FRIENDS ONE AND ALL.—I once more take an opportunity to inform you of my health which is good at present, hoping these few lines will find you enjoying the same blessing. I am now at work and shall return next spring, and I want you should tell Mother that I hope she is in good health and D— that I shall bring him a good present when I come out there, and I want him to learn his book and be a good boy, and remember to get his Sunday school lesson well, and when I come out there I will bring a whole lot of books, so that you may all re-

member well that time flieth swift away, and therefore improve each day. Tell aunt S— she need not try to get me to eat another buckelberry pie. I had rather die than undergo so much misery. I am a brisk and roving blade and on my breast wear the star called the honorable front of war. Great Britian can't handle me and I will down with the throne yet, and go on with my Oregon breaking line and the double dragoons of opposition, so that I can bring the ends together without any mistake. With this improvement and the ambition I have I can go ahead. A live sixpence is worth a slow shilling. The still sow drinks the swill. I am the child to fight and play on the banjo, and I will take the old serpent the devil and draw them down into the sea, and they shall drown in the waters.

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3. A well educated and accomplished lady, who became deranged it was supposed, in consequence of a fright while she was in feeble health, a few months after the birth of a child.

At first, very timid and wept very much, and applied to herself and against herself, every remark she heard and everything she read. She recovered by the use of tonics and morphine, in four months, and has now been entirely well several years. When deranged, she wrote to a near relative, as follows, which will serve as a good illustration of a peculiar and distressing form of bewildered mind.

*Asylum, Utica.*

You are not aware how unhappy I have been because I have not written to let you know how I have been employed. You know I should have written you soon after I first came here; it might have saved a great deal of trouble, and a good many lives, for I hardly know what I am chargeable with, there is so much talk of lives that have been lost since I have been here. I know there is

an immense sum of money been spent that might have been saved, and the loss of money and time now gone, I know not how to replace. It would a great deal better have gone to the Seamen's Society. It seems to me that Mr. — has lost a great deal through me. Mr. — must in some way, through the Telegraph I suppose, let them know. The loss in goods in the stores burnt is a great deal and has now accumulated to the amount of the war, and all the expense of the Navy Department, and they seem to think I must repair the loss of the time and the insurance since I have been here. They all seem to combine against me; every one shows something they have done, more than I, for the Bible cause, and it seems as if I was chargeable for the maintenance of the whole institution, and I know not what to do but cry and wish I was dead.—Oh! my God forgive me, for it seems there has been an insurrection at sea and that I am accountable, but I do not want to bring trouble on any one.

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4. Mrs. O. aged 47, admitted to the Asylum in 1846, having been deranged one year; supposed cause ill health and too hard work. When first attacked she was melancholy and disposed to suicide, and remained in this condition about a year, when she became excited and at times violent. When she came to the Asylum she was in good spirits and very active, talking constantly and easily irritated and excited. At night she was noisy and disposed to destroy her bedding and whatever else she could. She continued much in this state for three months, when she became less violent and destructive but very abusive and vulgar. Soon after this she appeared more calm—and disposed to melancholy, her bodily health failed, she had some fever and lost flesh rapidly, and for a while we almost despaired of her recovery. By the use of calomel and opium in small doses for a short time, followed by bark



and wine, she grew better and as her bodily health improved her mind also improved, and she left the Asylum well, eight months after her admission, and has ever since enjoyed good health of body and mind. The following is one of her letters written soon after she came to the Asylum, and when in an excited state.

"Monday morning in Utica it is said, perhaps the month *A. B.* or *Nisan*, year of course after the fire. My dearest children how do you do? In order to appear familiar I come every night and see you. Last Thursday night I came and saw A. very lame; on Friday the scale turned and he was better; the rest of you appeared as well as usual. To attempt a review of what I have seen, on one sheet of paper would be folly, or to attempt anything like an essay would be folly. My journey was very pleasant, saw many resembling former friends. I sung much of the way, eat nuts, saw many familiar faces—sung with delight songs of Zion. We took a carriage and came here and rung a bell and were admitted by Dr. Brigham, passed the compliment, he being the first person I had shook hands with. I was introduced to Mrs. — She took my bonnet and cloak and we seated in the hall, which was then occupied by many. I was much distressed with sympathies for them, and I endeavored to cheer them with hopes of recovery, which seemed to make them worse. I tried singing to them, they liked it much some of them, while others were I supposed displeased. You would be surprised to see the great variety of evil spirits which steal their reasons and control their minds. What I can do for them, God only knows."

5. S. T. N.—A single man, farmer, aged 26, came to the Asylum Dec. 1845, having been deranged since the June previous. Cause doubtful. His mother was insane and he had been much perplexed about property. Has been considered a very worthy and religious man.

When first admitted to the Asylum he was active and cheerful and at times much excited, stating that he had a call to preach and to enlighten the world upon religion. He soon became more calm and in a few weeks melancholy, accusing himself of being a great sinner, and finally sunk into a state of religious despair. His bodily health seemed feeble, his pulse was slow and his feet and hands cold, and he refused to speak, walk or exert himself in any way. He however continued to eat sufficiently by being fed, and he slept well.

Nearly in this condition he remained about one year, speechless, though his lips moved like those of an exhausted and distressed man imploring aid. His eyes had a fixed look sometimes as if gazing on some terrific object, at others it was more calm as if in deep contemplation. Various plans were resorted to for his relief, but nothing seemed of any avail. He however began to revive and to help himself in the Autumn of 1847, and the last of September became quite sociable and active and to a good degree rational and apparently happy, and has thus continued until the present time. Soon after his amendment, we questioned him respecting his mental condition during the long interval in which he did not speak, and he wrote to us as follows:

*Utica Asylum, Sept. 1847.*

MR. DOCTOR BRIGHAM:

MY DEAR FRIEND AND PHYSICIAN: My prayer is that God would spread his covering wings of love around us until our wanderings cease, and at our Father's lovely abode our souls arrive in peace. A few lines to inform you my friend what my poor soul lived upon during the long dreary period of time that it refused to converse with you from January 1846 to August 1847. In the first place it contemplated a long confinement in the State prison. Secondly. The awful punishment of being bound with

a chain of God's wrath and cast from His presence and from the glory of His power forever and forever. Thirdly, it consigned my poor body to be bound with a chain and cast into the burning flames of Mount *Ætna*, there to remain until the trumpet should sound, Arise ye dead and come to judgment, and then to be turned into hell forever more. My soul got no relief from these fearful apprehensions until my body was removed from this floor to the lower floor of the Asylum. A linen shirt was presented to me which brought to my mind the pure clean and white linen that we read of in the book of Revelation which represents the righteousness of saints. My mind was not long upon that subject but contemplated the beauties of persons dressed in linen that was pure, clean and white.

After that time to the twenty-fourth of the last month my mind was occupied by meditating upon the works of this lower world, both of God and man without any hope of a recovery from the miserable state my mind was in. Almost all the actions of my early days and my dealings with my fellow men to the twenty-seventh of June eighteen hundred and forty-five were taken up by mind and considered until it came to the conclusion by the assistance of God's Holy Spirit that the actions and dealings of myself with my fellow beings were in accordance with honesty, uprightness, decency and religion, previous to June 27, 1846. When my mind came to that conclusion these words were sounded in my hearing: "Jesus reigns and Heaven rejoices!" My dear friend, for me to describe fully to you the miserable state that my mind was in from the first of January, 1845, to the time that those words, mentioned above, were sounded in my hearing, August 1847, is impossible. In answer to that question, "what is the state of my religious feelings at present?" I am happy to inform you they are settled. Blessed Jubilee! Glorious morning dawn!

6. T. C. L., a single man, aged 21, who had worked some on a farm and taught school, and partially learned the printer's trade, admitted to the Asylum, June 1847, having been deranged four months. Supposed cause, a severe fit of sickness affecting the brain, which his physician thought to be 'softening of the brain.' His maternal grand-mother was insane, but no other relative. During his illness he was salivated and much reduced, blistered, &c.

When he came to the Asylum, he was very weak in body and demented in mind, unable to sit up and had to be fed. By the use of warm baths and tonics, his bodily health soon began to revive and in the fall he was able to walk about and help himself, and appeared pleasant and cheerful, but his mind seemed gone, and when spoken to, he would wriggle his body and laugh, but not speak. October,—has become more fleshy, and now converses and reads, is very observing and has a good memory. He continued to improve in some respects, and in the winter, asked for paper and wrote many compositions, mostly in verse, and exhibited considerable skill in sketching with a pencil. Still, with all this improvement, he has, even until the present time, an irresistible desire to tear his clothes, and if not carefully watched and guarded he will do so. He can assign no reason for this propensity, and when questioned about it, smiles and says he will not again. He commits to memory very readily, reads well, writes a good hand, and sketches accurately, yet his mind is in a very shattered state, as will be seen by a letter and some rhymes of his, which we subjoin as *Psychological curiosities*. We indulge strong expectations of his complete recovery.

Utica, December, 1847.

DEAR FATHER : I take this happy occasion to write to you, informing you of the pleasant times I have at the

Asylum. I am much gratified to learn that you have written a letter informing Dr. Brigham of the state of affairs down South. If I write contrary to the laws of good breeding, help, I pray. I take pleasure to think I am pleased in my letter,—however, through the merits of the Redeemer, I find opportunity and place for writing. I love to write in answer, for communication is fine, when we have liberty to convey news. I should like to be home now, where the fields are delightfully situated, plants springing above the ground, but more fair, where my sister on the plains sipping early flowers, noon-tide poses in the bowers, merrily she skips abroad to yonder elevation, no more she dances o'er the lea to where our fond hours were passed in silent loveliness. Take this ring, my loved one, you shall meet again where roses are plenitude, where flowers spring nigh, where gay delightful sunbeams streak the orient east. Rambling is vain. I love night shades fall, to hear by pleasant voice like the still notes of even, gently wakes mine ear thus causing hours to meet. Forget not fair lady I am in thy participations, and think of thee often as I write and wish to be with you. Never mind, time passes on the wing of joy, and will bring around when we shall live on the meads, singing pleasures as they like by rills ever running thereabouts. My health is exceeding good for the present, trusting to soon return home with rapture. I have everything preparatory to my launching the bark for a Home in the skies. I should be joyous to see you delighted in the station in which God has replaced you. I propound to you the earnest desires of the whole house. I find in my dear Saviour a joyful ensign of redemption. I am favored with every thing to my wish so far as I know, although my friends are far from me. I content myself with such articles as they place before me. I have wanted to rewrite before now since my welfare has preceded my look



out. I am fed with every attention in my power, taking nightly care that I remain healthy. Why have you not come after me before this? Why do you leave me here to suffer when I can be happy at F. C.? Let me tell you that I am every day expecting you after me. Do not fail in reading this letter with assurance, for a longer delay will perchance lose all. I wish your conveyance acceptable and immediately after me. But though Dr. Brigham gives every attention to my case, I would and possibly could stay at the Asylum awhile longer if I could be given paper and write often. Let me express passion dear maiden in token of friendship you may be astricted. O virtue, I am present beside you. I want to be home on the farm and drive the horses o'er the furrowed ground as I were wont to do. I hope you are all well in health and doing the work about the house in willingness. It is pleasant to cast the eye over the landscape, beholding the numerous sights and scenes which the summer yields. I wish you would come after me in a wagon ere the snow comes too deep so you cannot. I have a room of my own where I can sing tunes, delight myself variously, cast my eyes to the far spread fields, and lawns, discovering new plains, new beauties and new scenes. I have regular meals daily and plenty. Utica is a large city and presents every prospect. I feel an earnest wish to get home again, resuming my former loved recital. I am about closing my letter, thinking of the vast premeditations. I cannot tell all in this. I will try and write once more if time admits. I beg to have you come for me soon as possible.

Your ever affectionate son.

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## CANTO I.

*The Lovely Boy of Ulica.*

'Twas when summer suns were bright,  
The eastern hills were clothed in light,  
The mountain's brow o'ershadow'd hung,  
High in the clouds the bells had rung;  
The morn was bright, more lovely still,  
That lovely boy a lovely hill.  
'Twas in the west, a fairer clime,  
As now I write this gaudy rhyme,  
Benignly bright those lovely eyes  
Bending from the northern skies,  
Like briny seas on liquid wave,  
Or seamen there fast by the cave  
That wends them to the regions fair,  
In brawny limb and care-worn hair,  
In silken joy of many lov'd ones,  
Questions rising from the suns  
Of love delight. O ceasing chains,  
From off those legs uncrippled flames,  
Fast issuing to high mountain trees,  
Wafted o'er the numerous breeze,  
Along the pure and ceasing flow  
Of timely rills and earthen glow.  
Sweet be the fields beyond far shores,  
Niagara, where she downward pours  
Streams never from that rocky height,  
High and o'erfancying many a light,  
Springing from out the gushing lave,  
Where champions fight and oceans brave,  
Full many sands washed o'er the land,  
From pearly shore unbound his wand,  
In silver streaming round about,  
To dip the waving billows brink,  
To worlds on worlds unchanging link,  
Where floods impending rush to view,  
The storms that rise each morning new,  
To glad her heart, to cheer his way,  
To far unfetched and gladsome day.

## CANTO II.

'Tis many a scene commingled there,  
That brought those loving eyes from care,  
Immersed in seas of living fire,  
A tuneful harp, a willowed lyre,

Stands mounting there the august boy,  
Free from restraint, without alloy,  
From Inland seas and Oceans fraught,  
To you these heaping heavens fought,  
Lifted the bar then sprightly up,  
He gave the word the bowl to sup.  
Soon as the morning had begun,  
He left his couch a joyous one,  
To see forever on the banks,  
By buildings color'd with the cranks,  
That raise the world and move the cars,  
O'er the bars and shining stars,  
Were twinkling on the heavenly plain,  
The showy clouds benighted strain,  
Left many a streak upon the sky,  
To fairer scenes we wishful die,  
May boys and girls immortal gods,  
Bring muses to the grassy sods,  
That bask among the streams of bliss.  
You lovely boy, no image this,  
More fairer are the streets my boy,  
Then let us live as wont to why.  
Boy thou art, and boy shall't be,  
Far as the east the mountains free.  
The waters 'sauge; he skips along,  
His mouth is yielding to the song,  
That plays upon the seas of heaven,  
When then the clock tings for eleven,  
The gay delightful hours are come,  
The goddess-boy sounds city's drum.  
No noise is heard; the midnight cry,  
The Utica did almost fly,  
To the city in the sky.  
The Boy how neat, how beings send,  
From down the skies in actions blend,  
To see the girl once happy boy,  
A joy to all forever bright,  
Gifted with the charms of nature's night,  
The pleasant boy grew on in light.

As we have said, we expect the writer of the foregoing to get well, and as evidence that some of those whose minds are as much disordered do recover, we subjoin the following letter from a well educated young man, who had been deranged about three months when he wrote it,

and who entirely regained health of body and mind in six weeks after. His case for a time was very similar to the one we have just described.

MY DEAR SISTER: As the cedars of Lebanon have been walking through Edgeworth forest so long, you must have concluded that I have returned to the upper-world, but I am still in Purgatory for James K. Polk's sins, which, if they do not end in smoke, surely have as good a chance of beginning that way as the ideas began to shoot, for if T. had not left his trunk on the cart at the Depot, our shades would have been a deuced sight nearer to Land's End than Dr. Johnson said they would by the time the Yankees rebelled,—(ad interim) but I am now about between the porch and the altar, as Dr. — used often to express himself, under the droppings of the sanctuary, where I wish to forget old things for a time at least, and return to some better place than the last. I could have kicked plagiary to the seventh seal.

Do you know what this same long taper roller is? well pop it off, if by their works ye shall know them. Pollock has as good a right to be a D. D. as that doctor we read of in Blackwood that sought so long for spoons and found them not, because they were all lead until they were new burnished in Holyrood palace very near the place where Polk traced his pedigree, a little too near the loins of William the Conqueror, for the pleasures of memory or sense either, for Thompson, Bryant, Africaner, Ainsworth or anybody else. I said I had been to the Poles and S. had been there, and let T. Y. be witness that it was something more than stars, it is one thing neither you nor I can comprehend till we compare notes, but there is the least pit in hell that you ever saw or ever will see, and a certain little white Devil just as ready now as ever to lend a helping hand to the cook to give her a lift over those bars. If you should ever be inclined

to try Nebuchadnezzar's hollow furnace, for he did not wash all my guilt away did he? No indeed for he silvered my head nicely, so as to make it shine afar off. But the end of these things is not yet—consult S. I should like to see H. Honor to whom honor is due—tribute to whom tribute—Give the Devil his due.

### ARTICLE III.

#### *Trial for Murder,—Mysterious Disclosures.*

The following trial produced intense excitement in several of the Southern Counties of the State of N. Y., and there are few things in history, more strange and mysterious than some of the occurrences here detailed.

The Report of the trial, we have no doubt, will interest our readers. The evidence is not given in the exact connection that it was before the Court, as owing to some witnesses being obliged to leave, and to some technical objections, they were called upon to testify in an order that did not so well connect the occurrences.—*Ed. Jour. Insanity.*

#### BROOME OYER AND TERMINER.

Binghamton, May 7th., 1846.

HON. HIRAM GRAY Presiding.

THE PEOPLE,  
vs.  
JOHN JOHNSON.

} Indicted for the murder of Betsey Bolt.

A. BIRDSALL, Dist. Atty., }  
A. C. COOK, }

Counsel for  
Prosecution.

D. S. DICKINSON }  
JOHN A. COLLIER, }

Counsel for  
Defence.

*Jurors.*—Charles Livermore, Wm. S. Newell, Samuel Pratt, Ephraim B. Pease, Isaiah E. Reed, Wightman



Williams, Homer P. Twitchell, Edward J. Boyd, Dennis Dyer, Caleb La Grange, Stephen B. Fairchild, and John H. Smith.

A. BIRDSALL, Esq., Dist. Atty., opened the cause on the part of the prosecution, and proceeded to the examination of witnesses.

JAMES BOLT, sworn. I reside in the town of Greene, came there first nine years ago last fall. I know John Johnson. When I first came to Greene, I moved into his house. I moved to Triangle three years ago this spring, in the fore part of April. I moved on to a farm of Johnson's. It is some ten or twelve miles from Greene. Nyrum Johnson, Frederick Burger, and Harvey Hammond, moved me and carried my goods. I went a-foot, and drove some cattle, hogs and sheep. My oldest boy and John Baxter went with me. My wife rode in a wagon with Johnson. Johnson came up that morning and said he was going over and she had better ride with him. My child about ten months old was with them. They started after the teams. They passed me about four miles from Greene village. There are different ways of going there—they went through what is called Triangle village. I started in the morning and got there just at night. I met two of the teams coming back—Hammond's and Nyrum Johnson's: met them about two miles this side of where I moved to: did not see Johnson the night I got there: no one there except my family.

*Question.* Did you discover any thing unusual in the appearance of your wife? Objected to by defendant's counsel on the ground that the prosecution must first prove an offence has been committed, the *corpus delicti*. Objection sustained, but as the question was subsequently allowed we give the answer here.

When I got to the house she was cast down and did not say much. She complained of her arms. I saw her

attempt to comb her hair, and raise her hands. I dont recollect of seeing them in that way before. Her appetite was not good, owing to a want of sleep. I called a physician the last of the week previous to the Sunday night when she went off. She had made a complaint to me before I called a physician of the cause of her illness. I had a conversation with Johnson in regard to improprieties with my wife. I told him that after they got over there, he caught her, threw her down upon the floor, and put the end of the buffalo skin in her mouth, and committed a rape upon her—that he told her if she ever told me of it, he would destroy her. Johnson told me that if I took him, he had money and lands, and I would stand no chance. Johnson went on and said that he had done wrong, and he wanted to settle it—if it was dollars and cents, name the sum; or if lands, he said that he would give in lands, and would settle it to my satisfaction. When he spoke of going to law, as detailed in my conversation, we were near Johnson's house, going towards Lewis Juliand's. James Rose came to my house, and the next day, on Friday, I went over to Greene. I saw Rose first, and soon after Johnson came in. Johnson asked me to go out, and he first said what was the fuss, or trouble? We went up the road, and it was then he offered the lands and money. On the canal bridge I told Johnson this matter could not be settled. Johnson was at my house two or three times after I moved over to Triangle.

I resided in Triangle about six weeks. There are three rooms in the house in which I lived, a bedroom, a buttery and a common room—it is a log house. There are two or three windows in the main room, one in the bedroom. There were no curtains in the main room. While I lived there my wife disappeared. It is two years ago the 12th of May, inst., in the night time. It

was Sunday night. She was deranged during the day and evening. I had been in the habit of locking the door before that. That night I looked for the key and could not find it; and went out to the shed and got a barrel two-thirds full of milk and rolled against it. I had no time-piece. There was a fire burning all night in the room. I and my wife slept in the main room where we lived. I had six children then, and they were all at home. The oldest is 15 or 16. She slept in the bedroom. I don't recollect which went to bed first, me and my wife, or my children. It was about 9 o'clock. I remained in bed about an hour. My wife got up and went to the door and moved the barrel: when I got to the door she had her hand on the door-post. I got her back and put the barrel against it again, and then put her back on the bed. She had her shoes on this time. She had two pair of shoes. After we had been to bed about an hour, she got up and went to the bed where the children were. She came out and got her pipe, and sat down by the fire and went to smoking. I lay on the bed looking at her, and went to sleep I suppose; and the first thing I heard was the slamming of the door. I got up and went to the door and found it opened wide enough for a person to go out. I have never seen or heard of her since. Both pair of shoes were remaining there after she had gone. Mrs. Bolt had on a dark colored dress. I went out of the door, after the slamming of the door, and went round by the well. I let down the bucket to see if she was in there. I then went round the north side of the house, round the garden and current bushes. After searching round them I started towards the woods. It was a dark night and the wind was blowing from the south. It was about 80 rods from the woods. I went in that direction because she wanted to go in that direction on Sunday. Her health at this time was poor. She had been out of health some

time, and had not eat anything of any consequence for a week or more. Her health had been declining for some five weeks. The first I discovered of her being unwell, was the morning after I got there. She had not much strength when she went off—she had more when crazy than when rational. She would start and run, on Sunday, when she wanted to go to the woods; and then stop and take breath. She would run three or four rods before she would stop. I caught her and brought her back.

The witness here gave an account of the great excitement of the neighborhood, and said four or five hundred men assembled and searched the woods, rivers, &c., and that he himself subsequently made several long journeys to places where a deranged woman had been seen rambling about, but he could learn nothing of his wife. A lengthy examination followed but nothing important was elicited.

Mrs. ANN AUGUSTA BURDICK, sworn. I reside in Greene. I was 19 years old last December. I was married the 24th of last August. Amy Baxter is my mother. I know John Johnson. There are two rooms in the house where mother lived, and two outside doors to the house. I recollect going to the house and finding the doors fastened. I had been at the spring a washing about a mile from the house. I heard persons talking in the north room. They were the voices of Mr. Johnson and my mother. Heard Mr. Johnson ask my mother if she could get rid of Mrs. Johnson as well as he did of Mrs. Bolt. I went from there to the other room door, raised up the window, unfastened the door and went into the kitchen. They were on the bed. Mr. Johnson got up and came and took hold of my arms, and asked me if I had heard what he said. I told him I had. I went to go out of the door and my mother stood by it, and Johnson took hold of me. He asked me if I would tell of him. I told him I would

not. Nothing more was said at that time. My mother asked Mr. Johnson how he would get rid of Mrs. Johnson, and he said the same way that he did of Mrs. Bolt. He said that he could get a couple of men below Binghamton. I then went to the other room door. This conversation was when I was at the door. Johnson told me that if I told of what I heard, he would be the death of me. I believe he said so. I am pretty sure he said so. He made that declaration before he took hold of my arm, and before I told him I would not. About two or three weeks after this, I saw Mr. Johnson at my mother's house. My mother was absent—no one with me. The children were at Mr. Verril's. The first thing he said was, he asked if my mother had got home. I asked him what he wanted of her, if he wanted any sewing done. He said no—he wanted something of more importance. The next thing was, he saw Mr. Burdick coming, and told me to go into the other room. He then told me if I told Burdick he would be the death of both of us before he left the house. I went into the other room, and Burdick came in and staid a few moments and then went out. Johnson came in where I was, and led me into the kitchen. He took a rope and tied it round my hands, and tied me to the bed post. He took a bonnet and tied it over my eyes. He was gone a few minutes and came in again. He blinded me so that I could not see. He came in and unblinded my eyes, untied my hands, and tied me to the bed post. I could go to the fire-place. One end of the rope was round my waist and the other around the bed post. He brought in a bag, and laid it on the hearth. He then emptied the bag on the hearth—its contents were bones. He told me to put them on the fire: I told him I would not. He told me again and I fainted away. When I came to, the bones were burning. In a few moments he took them off and laid them on the hearth. He had two axes, and gave me



one of them. He told me to pound the bones, and I told him I could not. He told me again, and I told him I would not. He stood over me with the axe. I fainted away and he threw some water in my face and brought me to. He scraped up the bones and put them on the fire. He told me to get down on my knees, and I did so. He then asked me if I was going to tell of it. I told him I should. He said he had a good will to kill me. He asked me again if I was going to tell, and I told him I should. He said if I did, that he would serve me as he had Mrs. Bolt's bones. He again asked me and I told him I would not. He then untied me and went out. In the course of the conversation he said if he was taken up, he would have men that would take care of me. He did not say what men. I do not remember what was else. When he emptied the bones out, I did not notice what they were; but when he told me to put them on the fire, I noticed them. I noticed the head, and some of the other bones. I thought it looked like a person's head. I never saw the skeleton of a human being. I had formed the opinion before anything was said that the head was the head of a human being. I saw the nose, chin. When Johnson came to our house and enquired for my mother, I told him she had gone to Norwich. He exclaimed good Lord, what shall I do? When I returned from the spring, I found the curtains down. My mother returned the same week. I had then gone to Mr. Hammond's. I saw my mother, and she came over to Hammond's. My health was very poor. I had a conversation with my mother on Saturday—also on Monday. I and my husband were at her house a considerable part of the day.

Mrs. BURDICK, cross-examined. I resided at home in Greene. My name was Baxter before I was married. I did not reside in Oxford. I was there on board a canal boat near Mr. Keet's grocery about a week. I was sick

at my brother's, and was taken to the canal boat. My mother and brother took me there to stay. I lived at my brother's, about four miles from Oxford. I and a Pixley girl lived there. Her brother's wife was there—and her brother's wife, I and Miss Pixley, my brother's wife, and my brother's wife's brother, lived there together—was there a week. Leach was a single man. I was not in the room over the grocery—I was not in the room adjoining. Mrs. Leach and her daughter were with me. No young man came to see me or keep company with me. When the brother left, we three staid there. I came away before they all left—left Mrs. Leach and the children there. I was married on Sunday—went to Smithville the same day and returned. I lived at Johnson's before I was married. When I returned home from Smithville, I went to Hammond's. My mother left on Wednesday to go to Norwich, and was gone four weeks. She went there on complaint of Mr. Johnson against her son. When I came back, I went to Hammond's; on the next day, to my mother's. Can't say for certain, where I was on the Sunday following my return from Smithville. Can't tell how long it was after I came back, before I moved to Hammond's. Had been at Mr. Hammond's nearly two days before my mother returned from Norwich. I left the children at home when I left. My husband was at Hammond's. This interview between my mother and Johnson was in the fall of '45—it was in August, the week before I was married. My health was not very good. I had been to the spring a washing. There were two beds in the house. I and my mother occupied separate rooms. Did not try to open the door—knew it was fastened because I saw it was fastened when I got into the kitchen. Had to open the door to get into my mother's room. She and Johnson were on the bed together—Johnson spoke first and asked me if I heard what he

said. The first thing said, was, Johnson asked her if she would have him if he could get rid of Mrs. Johnson, and she said she would. She asked him how he could get rid of her, and he said in the same way he did of Mrs. Bolt. The children went with me—they staid there, and did not come home to dinner. I got my dinner. I eat dinner alone in my mother's room. Had no dinner cooked. It was not very warm or very cold. It was in September. The table was set when Johnson came—had just set down. Burdick was at work about twenty rods off; I could not call him in very readily. He sometimes came in after dinner; did not stay but a few minutes. Johnson saw my husband first. He spoke first about going into the other room. He said if I told my husband he would be the death of both of us. Johnson made a fire himself. I think my hands were tied with our clothes-line. He tied me to the bed-post; made the fire after I was blinded—can't say whether he went out more than once or not; my eyes were blinded and I could not see. The bag was emptied on the hearth. I had never seen any human bones before. Can't describe the head. It was entirely separated from the rest. The top of it was gone. I should think some of the bones were as long as from the elbow to the end of the finger. They were not on the fire when I fainted, but they were on when I recovered. Can't tell how long they were on the fire. I first told about the burning of the bones by the prisoner to Esq. Gray, Dr. Purple and my husband, on my way home from Utica, at some tavern between Greene and Utica. I don't remember how I went to Utica except as I have since been told. I told Mr. Gray, Dr. Purple and my husband about seeing my mother and Mr. Johnson together, at the same time. I do not remember being sworn before Esq. Lewis on the road. Have staid part of the past winter at Whittenhall's, and part at the Chenango House,

in Greene. The bag was longer than two half sheets of paper, (which the counsel extended)—it was tied; saw him untie it. There was a shed some distance from the house—don't remember whether the window looking to the street was blinded—the door was shut. Noticed some pieces of bone on the hearth. Sat down to the table but did not eat much. Had some bread and milk and pie. Was crying when my husband came in. He asked me what was the matter. Told him I did not feel very well. Was crying about what Johnson told me. Could not say whether there were more than fifty pieces of bones or not. They were of different sizes. Did not notice whether any of them were jointed together or not. Johnson swept up the hearth. Could not tell whether there was any smoke from them; did not notice any smell. I stated in my deposition all that I recollected at that time. I did swear on my preliminary examination that I did not recollect whether it was in the fall or winter. The pounding of the bones was in September, fore part. I know it was in September because I was married about three weeks before. I recollect being sworn after I left Utica, and before I got to Greene.

*Direct, resumed.* The color of the bones before they were put on the fire, was purple; after they were taken off, they were white. The pounding of the bones was after I returned from Smithville. After I returned from mother's, I lay down on the bed in the room occupied by me, back of the milk-room, at Hammond's house. This was on Monday evening. I was alone—there was no light in the room. My husband had gone out into the kitchen, to dress his sore leg. After he had gone, some persons came into my room. There were two of them. One put one of his hands on my forehead—the other put his hands around my legs. The same hand that was placed on my forehead was slid down to my neck. I

have a small scar on my forehead. They tried to take me off from my bed. I took the hand on my throat and pushed it off. They let the bed and myself fall to the floor. I felt the sleeve of a woman's dress. After I got the hand from my throat, I hallooed, and Mr. Hammond's family came in. We found a cape on the floor—the cape belonged to my mother. The next day after dinner, I lay down on the bed in my room, and fell asleep. The next thing I knew, some persons placed a gag in my mouth, and blinded my eyes. They carried me out, and when they had carried me a short distance, they laid me down. There were two persons. When they laid me down they took out the gag, and put a phial to my mouth and told me to drink. I refused; and the one who stood at my head, struck me twice in my face. I raised my hand and knocked the phial away. They stopped my mouth again and dragged me to a fence and over it. One of them refused to help, but the other, as I suppose, dragged me along to another fence, and dragged me through it. They then dragged me along to the third fence, and dragged me over that. They took me along until they came to a hill, and dragged me down to a swamp. They then laid me down on a knoll by the side of a brook, and took the gag from my mouth. They then asked me if I knew them, and I told them I did not. They again asked me and I answered that I did not. One of them was tall and the other a short man. I asked them to let me go home—they said they would not. I asked them to write a line to Mr. Burdick. The short one took a pencil from his pocket and scribbled on a piece of paper. I asked them to lay it on a log close by. He took it and laid it down in a hole. They covered up the paper. I then asked them what they carried me off for, and they said they had been got to do it. The largest took a knife from his pocket and came towards me. I begged of them not to kill me.



The short one stepped between me and the tall one, and said he should not. He laid his knife down by the side of me, blinded my eyes again, and gagged my mouth. One of them said that he hoped Mr. Johnson would drive through the village so that they would not mistrust him. After that they rolled me into the brook near by, and went and got a log and put it on me. They went and got another, and put that on me. They stood then on the log and bore down on me—I can't say whether both stood on me or not. One spoke and said that they must hurry or they should be too late. After they went away, I turned over as well as I could. I tried to get the paper and I could not. My hands were tied all the time; they were tied before me. I don't remember as anything was said about suspecting any one else. One said that he had done enough for \$5,00. The other said he had, for he had not got his pay for carrying Mrs. Bolt off yet. I was dragged by the hands.

*Cross-examined.* I had hysterics when I lived in Smithville. Did not have them very often. Do not recollect saying when I came out of one of my fits, that I had been to Heaven and brought back a message to my brother. Don't recollect saying or swearing that the first thing I recollected was finding myself in the lot. Neither of those men said anything about Mr. Bolt, or about his stabbing his wife. I never was sworn before Esq. Lewis, as I know of. Have never said or sworn that one of them drew his hand across his throat, imitating the way that Bolt cut his wife's throat. Never swore that those men had on palm leaf hats as I remember. If I did so, it was not true, as I did not remember. They were in disguise, painted and represented with whiskers on—they were painted down into the neck. Never said or swore that the painting came down on to their breasts, as I know of. Never have said or sworn that either of these men said

that Bolt followed his wife round the corner of the house, and stabbed her. Have never said or sworn that they took her out into the lot. If I said so it was false. Have never said or sworn that the large man made a motion at the same time that the small one did, towards his throat, as I know of. Have never said or sworn that they said anything about Johnson's being at Binghamton as I know of. If I did, it was not true. Have never said or sworn that they said, when they put me into the water, they should come after me again. If I have, it is false. When they first put me in the water my face was down. I lay so some three or four minutes—could breathe a very little. Made an effort to turn over. Turned partly over and the log remained on me still. It lay on my back, and it still lay on me after I had turned over as far as I could. Cannot tell how long the string was with which my hands were tied. Could not see it. Can't tell whether one or both of them stood on me. Can't tell whether my hands were tied with palms up or palms down. Tried to reach the paper after I turned over, but could not. Don't know that I have said or sworn that I begged of Johnson to go out. If I did it was false.

*Direct.* The first recollection I had after I was put in the brook, was after I got into Utica.

LEWIS JULIAND, sworn. I reside in Greene, in the vicinity of Mr. Hammond's. On Tuesday, the 30th Sept., after dinner, Hammond called to me and said there had been some difficulty between Mrs. Burdick and her mother, and there had been an attempt to take her off. Hammond wanted to counsel with me with regard to the attempt to carry Mrs. B. off. I went to my farm. In about half an hour, H. came again, very much agitated, and said Mrs. Burdick was carried off. I went to the house with him, and found the window blind of the bed-room window taken off so as to hang by one hinge. I think

there was no casing above it—think it might be raised when closed. Think the window was raised half way—the lower sash was raised full length. Others came immediately, and we commenced searching. We went up and down the bank, saw no traces, and came back to the house. Hammond went to the village. When we got back, others had assembled there, and Johnson among the rest. Johnson said that he would go for her mother; he said Mrs. Baxter was at Nyrum Johnson's, and he would go after her. Four of us then started to search the swamp. Johnson said he would go up the road, and if he found her, he would fetch her home. We crossed the fields to the swamp. Lucius P. Darby, Van Ostrom, Thurber and myself, were together. Directly after we got into the swamp, Darby and Van O. called to Thurber and myself, and said that they had found the girl. Darby and Van O. asked me to untie her hands. Not discovering the knot, I cut the string. It was a common corset-lacer. She appeared nearly dead. They brought her in, and laid her on a bed in the kitchen on the floor. About nine o'clock she was taken up and carried into the bedroom and placed on a bed. In the evening she struggled some, and tried to vomit. The string was wound around her hands twice or three times, and tied tight. The string left a deep impression in the flesh. Voluntary action had entirely ceased. After I got to the house, they showed me a bandage they had taken from her eyes. I found the apron in the field next day. There is an abrupt descent in rear of Hammond's house towards the river. A person sixty paces in rear of the house, would be entirely out of sight, and would not be seen again in going to the swamp. Verril's house and my own would also be entirely out of sight. The high point would be near Mrs. Baxter's house. The first fence was partly down, and they might have gone over it or through

it. Some portion of the land was stony. There are some woods between the road and the swamp. Directly in front of Rathbun's house, there is a high point which might obstruct the view. The barns on Rathbun's land would also obstruct the view. The swamp is mostly covered with ash timber, and interspersed with underbrush. In passing down to the swamp, there is an opening in the hill. Mrs. Baxter was at Hammond's house when she was brought back. The hands were across each other with both palms up. I went to Mrs. Baxter's house. There was a chain and padlock on the door.

*Cross-examined.* The house was fastened. We tried to get into Mrs. Baxter's house, after Johnson said he would go for her. There are three houses besides Mr. Hammond's on this road, within one mile. There is also a tannery, unoccupied. The view on the west side of the river is obstructed by clusters of trees. Cannot get a whole view in going up the road, within a mile, at a time. The road is a travelled road. Don't recollect as there was any mud on the palms of her hands. There was a good deal of mud on her dress. Can't say as any mud was on the bandage, as I did not see it until it was taken off. A person could not breathe a great while with his face in the water. The water was three or four inches deep. A person could not get a view from the corners in Greene village. He might from some points in the village. The road on the east side of the river is not much travelled. I know where Hammond was at work that day. Think the front door of Hammond's house may be seen from where they were at work.

*Direct.* But a small portion of this way could be seen from any point in the village. Many of the blocks of buildings are joined together. The large blocks are on the corners. The most stores are on the north and east sides of the main streets, and there is no view from those stores.

LUCIUS P. DARBY, sworn. I reside in Greene, I was present at the search, and was one of the persons who found Mrs. Burdick. We entered the swamp together. Mr. Van Ostrom was with me. After we got in, we heard a noise like a person struggling to breath, or choaking. We listened and went towards the sound, and found Mrs. Burdick lying in a ditch. The ditch was two feet wide, and a foot or a foot and a half deep. She was lying on her back, nearly. Her hands were tied about the wrists—she had a gag in her mouth, a bandage tied over her eyes, and another over her mouth. There was a stick two feet or more in length, five or six inches in diameter one way and not quite so much the other, lying on her neck; and another stick six feet long and six inches in diameter, lying diagonally lengthwise across her breast. The lower end of the stick towards her feet, was run under another log that lay across the ditch, and it lay prying across her. The stick was so put upon the log that it could not be raised up without drawing it out. The end was a little crotched that lay under the log. One end of the log that lay across the ditch was imbedded in the earth. She had on no shoes. Van Ostrom took hold of her head, and I took hold of the stick and took it off from her. After the sticks were taken off, we took her out of the brook. We then removed the bandages from her eyes and mouth, and drew the gag from her mouth. The gag was firmly in her mouth. I had to pull two or three times to get it out. Immediately after we found her, we called to others and they came up—Mr. Juliand and Mr. Thurber. They helped take off the sticks and get the gag out of her mouth. We could not find the knot by which her hands were tied—Mr. Juliand cut it. The stick six feet long, was swamp-ash. I should think it was heavy, as heavy as though it had been green—it was a good lift. I had to stand astride of it to pull it out



and raise it off her. The other stick was a good deal lighter, but was water soaked. In proportion to its size it was as heavy as the other. There was some water in the brook but not enough to cover her face. The water was three or four inches deep, the mud and water. She had settled down in the muddy liquid, not over six inches, perhaps not as deep. The water came perhaps half way over her face, up to her ears. Did not notice whether her clothes were twisted, as though she had turned over. She was muddy—her dress was muddy all over. Her face was wet, and her clothes wet all over with muddy water. The front side of the bandages was wet and muddy, and her hands were wet and muddy. She was very senseless. I handled her in taking her up—her limbs were motionless. When the gag was removed, she made no noise but in gasping. There was blood on her mouth and upon the gag. Her eyes were partly open, and rolled back in her head. The gag was made of pieces of cloth rolled up, and resembled as much as anything, a goose egg, flattened. It was sewed together—perhaps not quite as large as a goose egg. The largest end was out of her mouth. The gag was afterwards taken to pieces. Two-thirds of it was in her mouth. As soon as we got her liberated, four of us took her up to Mr. Van Ostrom's house. There we found Mr. Johnson who took her in his buggy, and took her away. She was senseless to the last I saw of her there. We thought part of the time, that she was dead. We had to carry her one-fourth of a mile. I did not see her again until her examination at Binghamton. Her dress was torn in different places—it was torn at the waist, where it was gathered in.

*Cross-examined.* I was at the village when the alarm was given. Mr. Johnson was there and went with us. Mr. Hammond went to the post-office to give the alarm.

There did not appear to have been any struggling in the stream. [The stick, six feet long, was produced in court,] I should say that was the stick. The bandages were tied over her eyes, and the knot was at the back side of her head. Her breast and the upper part of her person were out of the water. Her hands were folded—her face was wet with muddy water. There was no mud about her mouth and nose. The bandages were over her mouth and nose—there was no mud on them, they were wet. The stick that was bedded in the bank was longer than the one produced. Her feet were under the stick. The upper end lay across her hands. When I went to take the stick off, I had to pull it out. I think she might have moved it one side, if she had strength enough—she might if she had had ordinary strength. The small stick lay across her neck. I think she lay nearly flat on her back.

*Direct.* Her head lay up stream. Both bandages were tied on the back-side of her head. The stick that lay across the stream, one end was firmly imbedded in the bank. There was a knoll on one side of the stream. We were somewhat excited, and I did not notice the exact position she lay in. The bandage over her eyes, was the cape to her dress. The gag was made of pieces of cloth, pieces of a shirt, the collar part and sleeve, folded together, and basted.

WILLIAM D. PURPLE, sworn. I reside in Greene, am a physician. Have practiced twenty-one years. I know Mrs. Burdick, and have since the 31st of last September. Mr. Hammond came for me to see her professionally. It was near sunset. Found her on a bed in the kitchen. There were a number attending her. She was cold and speechless, and remained so for quite a time, with occasionally severe spasms, choaking, &c., with a disposition to vomit. Her person was a good deal bruised. She

had marks of violence about her, which appeared as though impressed with fingers. She had bruises on her hands—also on her ankles. She remained in that condition until about ten o'clock at night. We used external and internal applications. The bruises might have been made by blows of the fist.

*Cross-examined.*—I went from Greene to Oxford with Mrs. Burdick, then left the boat and went by stage. Saw her again about three weeks after. When she went up she was deranged, but not when she returned. Saw her when she was sworn before Mr. Justice Lewis. Think she was not sane then, so as to remember what occurred. Think she was insane. Was not advised with as to having her examined. Thought at the time she was rational. Did not express any opinion as to her rationality. Think I saw her the next morning, when she was insane. She remained so during the three or four following days. This was before she went to Utica. During the several preceding days she appeared rational at times. I was present when she was sworn before Esq. Judson at Sherburne on the 15th Nov. She was sane then. Was here as a witness at the preliminary examination. I then attended Mrs. B., was present when she was examined, and regarded her sane. She was not sane during the whole of her stay here. The examination was going on when she left the stand, and the next morning, defendant's counsel wished to go on with her cross-examination, and the call was renewed from day to day, twice or more, until I left town. Think I was here three days after she left the stand, and when I went, I left her here. Her insanity was given as a reason why she did not again appear upon the stand.

*Direct, resumed.* Have had charge of her since the abduction in connexion with Dr. Willard, most of the time. The first return of consciousness was accompan-

ied with fears of being personally injured. At every approach to sanity she would scream in terror at the sight of a window, and say they were coming. In every attempt to soothe her, she would say she could not keep it from her mind—wished she could. Her state seemed half sleeping, half waking, she was very weak, and her nervous system the most excitable I ever saw. Her abduction, as she described it, would be sufficient to produce these consequences.

*Cross-examined.* The examination was taken at Mr. Hammond's in an upper room. I heard of it while it was going on. She has severe spasms, turns herself about, her teeth are set and she is bereft of reason and insane. I have seen her insensible for two or three days at a time—she was so for that length of time in Feb. last.

CELIA B. HAMMOND, sworn. I live in Greene, am the wife of H. B. Hammond; occupy a farm of Mr. Johnson's; am sister to Pulaski Burdick. After his marriage, Pulaski boarded with me and staid at Mrs. Baxter's at night. Mrs. Burdick was from home a short time soon after the marriage. Mrs. Baxter left the Tuesday after the marriage and returned the Wednesday before the abduction. When Mrs. Burdick returned, she staid at our house Sunday night, and went to her mother's on Monday, and came back again a week from the next day, the Tuesday before the abduction. Mrs. Baxter was at our house the same day she returned from Norwich. She wanted her daughter to go home with her. Think Mrs. Burdick was at her mother's on Saturday of that week. Mr. and Mrs. Burdick went over to Mrs. Baxters on Monday. Mrs. Burdick returned about two o'clock, and retired to her room soon after. She did not, to my knowledge leave it again till about eight o'clock P. M. There are three rooms in the upright part. She occupied

a bed-room at the end of the hall. Can go from it out doors through the milk-room. The window is on the rear of the house. The kitchen is in front, even with the upright part. There is a cellar under this part with an outer door opening in rear of the house. A person in the cellar could hear one walking above distinctly. On Monday evening, the 29th Sept., heard first a faint scream in Mrs. B's room—heard it three times, louder the last. Was in the kitchen. Mr. Hammond, my sister and Mr. Burdick went with a light. My sister came back, and I went in. Found Mrs. B. sitting on the bed which was on the floor near the door. She appeared to be much frightened, and we could not understand her at first. She soon said some one had tried to carry her off. We tried to soothe her. She described the manner of the attempt. She said a person came in and put his hand on her forehead, and she supposed it was her husband. Then he grasped her throat and put a hand under her shoulders, and another person took hold of her feet. They tried to take her from the bed. She caught hold of the bed clothes with one hand, and with her other hand loosened the grasp on her throat and made a noise. They dropped her and ran off. The outside door of the milk-room was open and the bed-room door. I saw Mrs. Baxter's cape that evening after the bed was made. My brother said he had found Mrs. Baxter's cape. I know it. It was torn in the back and front where it was pinned. I had not seen Mrs. Baxter that day. Saw Charles Baxter. He had been gone fifteen minutes. He wanted my brother to go with him to the village. On the afternoon of the next day, was in Mrs. Burdick's room, and saw her there twice and spoke with her. The window and door were fastened. She was on the bed. The window was raised a little. Last in at half past two. Heard a noise like rapping on wood, and a ringing sound like striking small



irons. I and my sister were in the kitchen. Looked out at the back kitchen door. Was fitting on my dress, and it was fifteen or twenty minutes before I went into Mrs. Burdick's room. Found outside and bed-room doors open, the window fastened open, I think with a piece of green casing, the curtain down and string broken, and one blind off the hinge at the bottom and the other open. I went out and called to the men who were at work on a stone wall. Her shoes stood where she put them. I was there when she was brought back. Saw Mrs. Baxter and Johnson before this. They asked me what it was about that cape, and said Mrs. B. wanted to see it. They were together. When Mrs. Burdick was brought back, her hair was dirty and dress torn. She did not wear corsets. Noticed bruises on her arms, neck, ankles and body, which were visible for several weeks. Did not see Mrs. Baxter make any search. Said she had seen her in a worse condition and rubbed her hand a little. Before Mrs. Burdick was found, Mrs. Baxter said she presumed she had gone off of her own accord.

*Cross-examined.* Had seen Mrs. B. in fits twice before the Monday night. Her teeth were set, eyes shut, limbs stationary, pulse regular—she could not talk. The first time, she had a succession of fits. She had fits after she came to our house. In the last of the previous week, I found her on the ground senseless, just at twilight. We had two dogs; the large one churns sometimes. We churn every day. He is usually there. There had been some difficulty about the things. The bed was off the bedstead. The dogs were round that evening. I put the bed back and did not see the cap; my brother gave it to me. On Tuesday afternoon the blinds were fastened. She had on a merino dress and gingham apron. We never fastened the milk-room door till Monday night. It was fastened with a stick. I was with Mrs. B. here, and

after she left the stand. The next morning she was deranged, next day sick and continued so. Have seen her in fits since. I think she had a fit a week ago yesterday. She has lain unconscious for three hours.

*Direct.* Mrs. B. said it was not the bed they wanted, but her. Never saw symptoms of derangement till her abduction.

PULASKI BURDICK, sworn. Am the husband of Ann A. Burdick. Saw her at her mother's in the south room, about a week previous to her abduction, and found her on the bed crying. Asked her what was the matter, and spent some time in trying to find out, but could only learn that she was unwell. I was cutting up corn about forty rods from the house. It was between 12 and 1 o'clock. Tried to get her home to go with me, but she said she did not feel able. I went back to my work. Was at Mrs. Baxter's on Monday before the abduction, from 10 A. M. to 3 P. M. Charles Baxter was there. Mrs. Baxter was excited and very angry. Saw Mrs. Baxter and Mr. Johnson together on Sunday afternoon in front of Mrs. Baxter's house. Mrs. Baxter's boys about that time went down the road past our house. The eldest one had an axe. The axe was found on the floor in front of the bed. I know it was Mrs. Baxter's, had seen her wear it, and saw her have it on that day at about 5 o'clock P. M., about three hours before my wife picked it up. I was the first that went into her room on that Monday night. Found her partly on the feather bed and nearly in the door of the bed-room. Was in her room till Charles Baxter left; then went into the kitchen; took the light with me—shut the milk-room door. When I went into her room again, found the milk-room door open, and the dog commenced barking. When we were at work on the wall, could not see the rear of the house.

*Cross-examined.* Became acquainted with my wife in

1845. The first fit I knew her to have was in June, and she had them in succession for three days. They were very severe. Did not discover marks on her limbs after these fits. The next time, was when reports were circulated that her brother had stolen money from Mr. Johnson. She had fits the same evening that the attempt was made to abduct her, about two hours before she was found on the floor. It was a severe one—she remained in it, twenty or twenty-five minutes. Have been awakened by her groaning. She groaned invariably when she went to sleep, and does so sometimes now. Has had fits since her return from Utica—should think three or four—one very severe one on the 2nd of Jan. last. Had several slight fits on her examination here last fall, and was deranged on the night following. She has been deranged several times since, the last time for about a week. Was deranged about a week ago. Had lucid intervals on her way to Utica, one of thirty-six hours, during which she told me of the conversation she had overheard between her mother and Johnson. Johnson came and urged Mr. Hammond to work on a fence for him on Monday and Tuesday. He came Sunday evening, the Sunday evening before the abduction. Hammond, Van Ostrom and myself worked on the fence. Several articles were brought over from Mrs. Baxter's to Mr. Hammond's—the bed and bedding on Friday; some articles on Saturday. Mrs. Baxter had two capes, one a blue one with copperas sprigs. This was the one found after the attempt to abduct my wife on Monday night. Cannot describe the other minutely—it was nearly the same color. Saw Mrs. Baxter on Monday—she had the cape on then—my wife wore an apron off the same piece.

*Direct.* My wife was not deranged when she had those fits. Never saw any marks made by her at those times. The reason why I noticed Mrs. Baxter's cape was, that

there was a good deal of dispute about the clothes belonging to her and my wife.

*By a Juror.* Never heard her say that she would destroy herself or run away.

*Cross-examined.* Heard her say she would kill herself, if it was not wicked. This was on the day Johnson burnt the bones.

LUCY RICE, sworn. Lived at the time of Mrs. Burdick's abduction, on a farm of Nyrum Johnson's near Hammond's, and in full view of the brow of the hill on Rathbun's farm. N. Johnson went up from the swamp to work that afternoon. Saw persons that afternoon go down the hill to the swamp, two or three men or boys running. It was two hours after dinner. They appeared to be at play and had hold of each other.

*Cross-examined.* Could not tell how many—there were three, and a man back of them.

LUCY ANN RICE, sworn. Saw the persons spoken of by her mother. There were two or three of them, and one behind.

DANIEL P. FITCH, sworn. I occupied Rathbun's farm on the 30th Sept., '45. Was at work on the east corner of the farm that day. My son and another boy were with me. Went to work after dinner about a quarter past one. Did not go over the brow of the hill spoken of. I went over the ground from Hammond's to the swamp, the next morning. Found a place in the fence where the top rails had been raised—the third fence. Went to find traces. The side hill was grown over with weeds. They were pressed down as though something had been drawn over them. From the edge of the swamp there was a trail to where they found her. Van Ostrom was with me part of the time. We brought out the stick here in court, which was then water-soaked, and another.

*Cross-examined.* Mrs. Rice could not see where we were at work.

DANIEL VAN OSTROM, sworn. Lived in Greene Sept. '45, about half a mile from Hammond's. Was one of those who found Mrs. Burdick. Her clothes were wrapped round her feet, which were placed under a log. In the forenoon was drawing poles—in the afternoon, at work on the fence. Had previously been at work where the swamp was in view. When I went to the swamp Johnson said he knew I would find her; and so he went along with his wagon.

DR. PURPLE, recalled. Was called on by Mr. Bolt to visit his wife after he removed to Triangle. Found her weak and feeble, and was unable to discover any physical cause of her illness. She was agitated and disturbed, exhibited much anxiety, pulse weak and rather quick, nerves weak and irritable. Said she had no appetite and could not sleep. Said she had been so some three weeks, and was growing worse, and could hardly sit up. I questioned her as to the cause of her illness. I asked if there were any reasons beyond my view. Think fear and apprehension of personal injury, in a female, would produce her state. Prescribed for her—gave her cathartics and anodynes. Conversed with her an hour or two. Never saw her again. Her state, if not relieved, was sufficient to produce insanity. Saw Mr. Bolt the Sunday before his wife disappeared, at Mr. Johnson's house in Greene, and again on the canal bridge near Cushman's. He went west, passed me, and spoke with me. Mr. Johnson asked me why I had reported the stories about the Bolt matter. I told him I had spread nothing new. He said he had always been my friend, and I ought not to spread such stories. He advised me to keep my peace.

Monday, May 11.

LOUISA BOLT, sworn. Am a daughter of James Bolt.



Rode to Triangle on a load of goods with Nyrum Johnson. Mr. Johnson and mother passed us on the road; J. had a buffalo skin in his wagon. There was no one at the house when we got there, except mother and my little brother who rode with her. Johnson was not there—his horse and wagon were there, and he came in afterwards. My father lived there six weeks. Mr. J. was there three or four times. Once I heard a conversation between him and mother—it was the second time he was there after we moved. I was in the bed-room and mother in the kitchen. He came to the door and asked where father was. She told him; and he then asked if she had told Bolt anything. She said she had not, but should. He said if she did, he would surely destroy her. He then went away. My mother's health was poor indeed, after we went to Triangle. There was some one in the house with her all the time; she requested it. I recollect the night she disappeared—I slept in the bed-room. Think it was between ten and eleven when I went to bed. Mother did not wish to go to bed at all. She was not rational. She was in my room during the night—do not know the time, or what she was there for. I heard the door slam—got up, and called to father, who was then getting up. I went to the door. He went to the well and run the bucket down, and called for her. The barrel was shoved away—it was more than half full.

*Cross-examined.* Am eighteen years old. After the teams came mother got tea. The men sat down to tea. Am sure I waited on the table. Don't know how I swore before. No furniture there when I got there. Father did not come till dark. Am sure no teamsters staid there that night. Mr. Burger was there next morning. I was there when Johnson went away. She said if I wanted to go back with him, I might. He was building a barn there. Can't tell how many times he ate there after-

wards ; he ate there once after mother was gone. Father, uncle, and J. ate. Johnson and father came to the house together in a wagon. The door was fastened on Saturday all day. She tried to get away Sunday several times, and once got clear to the woods. The door was not at any time fastened by two nails driven over the latch. Don't recollect that I swore at Greene that it was so fastened that night. If I did, it was false. Don't recollect what I swore to at Greene. Don't recollect ever telling that the nail was cracked, and mother broke it. I stated the truth when I was sworn at Greene. My recollection is clear with respect to the conversation between mother and Johnson. Can't tell to whom I first told it. The door slammed hard so as to wake me up. Never told father or mother what I heard. The door was shut when I got up.

VINCENT VAN ARSDALE, sworn. I reside in Cortland county. Know the prisoner. Recollect the time Mrs. Bolt disappeared. Mr. Bolt lived in Triangle. I went on the place about ten days after he left it. Mr. Johnson was there a number of times after I went there. I saw him in the corn-field about the last of June or first of July. He had a stick in his hand and was thrusting it into the earth. He asked me if I kept a good look-out ; and said I ought to do so, as he had no doubt Bolt had killed his wife, and secreted her on the farm. I said Bolt had not killed his wife more than I had. He said it was well enough to make them think so.

*Cross-examined.* Heard a number of people speak about the same thing, of Bolt's killing his wife. That was the common opinion. I moved on the farm the 22nd of May, and off in February. There was a controversy between Johnson and myself. He complained of me for killing two sheep, and said I had no right to do so. First told of the conversation with Mr. J., when the peo-

ple gathered to dig for Mrs. Bolt's bones. Other people had been punching over the fields. Told of it a year and a half after it occurred in '45.

SAMUEL P. FITCH, recalled. I saw Mr. Johnson the Sunday afternoon Mrs. Bolt is said to have disappeared, not far from sundown, pass through the village of Greene in a one-horse covered carriage. I was near Mr. Juliand's on the east side of the Chenango. Crossed the road just ahead of the horse. He was not alone, but I did not know the person with him. They had cloaks on. The last I saw of them they were passing over the canal bridge on the direct road to Triangle.

*Cross-examined.* It was about the time of evening meeting. I was going to meeting. Have heard he had property west of the canal. Don't know what road he took after he got over the bridge. Have talked with Smith about it. He said he saw him at prayer meeting. My attention was called to it within ten or fifteen days. Johnson charged me with killing his sheep.

PHILIP DECKER, sworn. I reside at Geneganslet Corners, about two miles from Greene, on the turnpike to Triangle. I know Johnson. Recollect the time Mrs. B. disappeared. I saw Johnson that day between sundown and dark, pass by my house and go west towards Triangle. He was in a one-horse wagon, and a man with him. They had cloaks on. I looked him in the face. Have known him by sight seven or eight years. The other man had his face partly covered. It was the wagon Johnson generally drives. They sat in the back end.

*Cross-examined.* Have known Johnson ten or twelve years. He used to live in Lisle before he came to Greene. Saw him pass frequently. The other man appeared taller. Told my wife Johnson was going by.

ALLEN C. JEFFERS, sworn. Reside in Triangle in sight of the Bolt place, about two hundred and fifty rods

from it. The night Mrs. Bolt disappeared, I got up about 12 o'clock, and was up a short time. Heard the clock strike one after I went back to bed. Not far from one my dog barked, I spoke to him, and a wagon went by. It went east. I thought it a one-horse wagon. It went slow. I got up very early the next morning—noticed the wagon track half way to Bolts. Saw Johnson after Mrs. B. disappeared. He asked me if I had heard Bolt make any threats against him. Told him Bolt told me that if he was certain he was the one, he could not keep his hands off of uncle John. I asked Johnson what he sent Jim Roos over there for. He told me he had heard there was a fuss in Bolt's family, and he sent Roos to tell him to take no rash move—he could satisfy him when he should see him, before his family, that he had done nothing wrong—that he had a lawsuit, and could not go himself. I saw Roos pass my house on Friday and stop at Bolt's. [Nothing important in the cross examination.]

ORLANDO EGGLESTON, sworn. Resided in Triangle in May '44, about two miles from Clark's Corners, and about the same distance from Bolt's. Recollect the Sunday night—it was dark and misty. Heard a wagon pass my house that night, driving fast—got up and went to the window and saw it. It was going South towards Triangle Corners. [Cross ex. Nothing important.]

HARVEY B. HAMMOND, sworn. Reside in Greene on prisoner's farm, am the husband of Mrs. Hammond. Was one of the teamsters who moved Bolt. Saw Johnson in the fields about sixty rods from the house. Said he was looking after some cattle. Lived in September where I now live. Never saw the Baxter house fastened till after the alarm.

*Cross-examined.* Mrs. Baxter was arrested in two or three hours after the girl was found. Think Mrs. Bolt

came out to the wagon for the tea things. She was busy about like the rest. It was half an hour before we had tea. Think Mrs. B. waited on the table. Did not hear her make any complaint. Heard her say to Mr. J., I don't know but you will have to carry my girl home with you, she is homesick. She spoke pleasant enough. Mr. J. was in his wagon ready to start.

*Direct.* Did not notice her manner.

DELIA BURDICK, sworn. Am the sister of Mrs. Hammond. [Testified as to the carrying off of Mrs. Burdick substantially as did Mrs. Hammond] Van Ostrom said, there is another Bolt scrape. They have carried off a woman in broad day-light. Mr. Johnson asked who was carried off—if it was that young Burdick's wife. Van O. said it was. Mr. J. said he had first understood they had carried Burdick into the house dead. Johnson went after Mrs. Baxter. I heard him ask her for the key to her house. She gave it to him. Mr. J. asked for the cape, or said Mrs. Baxter wanted to see it. This was before Mrs. Burdick was found.

*Cross-examined.* [Testified as to Mrs. Burdick's fits and insanity.]

JOHN VERRILL, sworn. Live first house above Hammond's. Went after Nyrum Johnson. Found him drawing stone. He was in no hurry to come. Mr. Johnson and Mrs. Baxter went slowly along in a wagon, and were very chatty.

MRS. BURDICK, recalled. On Monday before the abduction, I told my mother that I intended to expose her and Mr. Johnson. She said if I did, he would do by me as he had said he would.

ELISHA STRAIGHT, sworn. In the afternoon of the day Mrs. Burdick is said to have been carried off, saw Mr. Johnson about 2 o'clock, in the road. He went down



Main street with his horse and wagon—had a rough box in his wagon.

*Cross-examined.* It was about a mile from the Chenango House. Asked me to get in and ride. He had, not bones, but pigs in his box.

DR. AUGUSTUS WILLARD, sworn. Live in Green—have practiced as a physician about twenty years. In Sept. last, a search for the remains of Mrs. Bolt was generally talked of in the community. It was just before the carrying off of Mrs. Burdick. There was talk of searching the Bolt farm, and Mrs. Baxter's premises. It was public in the streets. Human bones, after the flesh is removed, if not exposed the air, are dark colored. Burning would make them nearly white. After burning they would pulverize easily.

*Cross-examined.* Could not well put the bones of a skeleton into a milk-pan. The ligaments would soon decay in moist earth. Was present, part of the time, at the examination before Esq. Lewis. Mrs. Burdick appeared rational, entirely so.

HENRY BURGHARDT, sworn. Reside in Triangle. Saw John Johnson on the day of the moving. I was near Mr. Tafts, in sight of Bolt's house. He went across the lot, it being one hundred and eighteen rods shorter than the road the teams took. I was there nearly an hour, at which time the teams had not come up. His horse was warm and sweat freely.

JEREMIAH VOSBURGH, sworn. Saw Johnson on the day of Mrs. Burdick's abduction, at about 10 o'clock. He was by the stone wall, looking towards Hammond's house.

ANDREW VOSBURGH, sworn. Went to the swamp after the piece of paper mentioned by Mrs. Burdick and found it where she said it was, in a little hole about two feet

from the brook. The hole was like a horse track, and was covered over with leaves.

EDWARD C. KATTEL, sworn. Produced the paper found by Mr. Vosburgh. It was left with me as a magistrate, and sworn to. The sticks found on Mrs. Burdick, were weighed when dry, before me. The heavier weighed twenty-six pounds, the smaller, two and a half.

ROBERT B. MONELL, sworn. Reside in Greene—know James Bolt. Saw him two or three times within the two weeks before his wife disappeared. Saw him once with Johnson going towards Hammond's. He had previously consulted with me about his difficulties. I advised him as a lawyer, and gave him a letter of introduction to the District Attorney of Broome county. Know the Baxter house. Have tried the experiment to see if persons without, could hear conversation within. Juliand and Hammond conversed in the farther part of the room—I could hear them distinctly.

JAMES ADAMS, sworn. Built a barn on the Bolt place for Johnson in '44. Saw J. there frequently after Mrs. B's. disappearance. He asked me if I didn't hear Bolt and his wife quarrel. He took me away in private, and asked me if I did not hear her say she was homesick; and put other similar questions.

*Cross-examined.* I told him she acted as though something was the matter with her.

[ The testimony for the prosecution here closed, and Mr. Dickinson opened the defence. ]

### The Defence.

LYMAN B. LEWIS, sworn. Am a Justice of the Peace in Greene, was so last fall. Took Mrs. Burdick's statement, on the 7th Oct. 1845. I wrote it down and read it over to her, and she swore to it. It was carefully read to her. She appeared to be rational. The affidavit pro-

duced, is the one she swore to. She was sick and could not sign it. It was a few days after her abduction.

AMY BAXTER, sworn. Johnson never offered or proposed to marry me. Nothing was ever said about destroying his wife. No conversation ever had between us as to the manner in which Mrs. Bolt was destroyed. Saw him Sunday afternoon as late as six o'clock, in the street in front of my house. I asked him where Charles should chop wood. He asked where Charles was. I told him I thought he had gone towards the village. He told me he could chop where Hammond got his wood. That was all the conversation I recollect. My son, living with J. was in the street. Don't recollect where my smallest son was. Mr. J. went up towards Van Ostrom's. My son John went down to Johnson's. I was at Nyrum's on the following Tuesday. Went there to cut and make a pair of pantaloons for Mr. J. Left there not far from sunset—rode back with old Mr. Johnson. Mr. Ketchum lives in Smithville. Augusta had a fit when I was there. She had been in fits for some days; at last she said she had been to Heaven and had seen her brother who had recently died, and talked with him—saw her Saviour—that her brother wished her to come back, and she told him she did not want to. He told her she must finish her work, and warn her friends. She prayed and kissed the Bible. After this she requested her brother Charles to set a tumbler of water on the steps. He did so, and in the course of a bright star which she could see. He told her he thought no stars were to be seen, as it was a dark and rainy night. Then she wanted to be led to the door to drink the water in the tumbler. We told her she should not go there. Charles and George Ketchum led her there, and she drank the water. Mr. K. was called in for assistance.

*Cross-examined.* My husband is not living—he has been

dead seven years. He died in Oxford. He died in the street, about ten o'clock in the morning. He had eaten his breakfast as usual; I don't recollect how long before. Something was said about opening his stomach to find out the cause of his death. I objected, in a manner. Our cellar at Smithville was an outer cellar. No wooden box in it, to my knowledge. My husband had been out half an hour when he died. When I left Greene for Norwich. I went on foot and alone. Rode about one and a half miles, with whom, I do not know. Went more than once. First time, went with John Johnson. My little girl Sarah went with us as far as my son's house in Oxford. We did not stop at his house. When I went on foot, I went to take care of my son. Lived with them, in one part of the house, for two or three weeks. Mr. Johnson sent a writing to them to leave the house. I read it to them, and know of no other means used to expel them. I had formerly lived a year in a house of Johnson's. At Geneganslet, I rented a house of Mr. Hays, and paid in sewing. I sew with my left hand. Lived in Hays' house near a year. Went from there to Smithville, and lived in Ketchum's house. Charles paid part, I paid some, and part is unpaid. Mr. Johnson took the crane from an Irishman's chimney, and put it up in mine. I did not pay him all the rent the first time. When I went from Smithville, I moved into his house in Greene. John pays the rent. He is fifteen years old. He lives with Johnson who clothes him for the most part. Never had but one bushel of wheat of Mr. J. He never furnished me with any money, except fifty cents which I borrowed. I went to his house and sewed for him. That is all, or nearly all that I have ever had from Johnson. Had not been in the habit of locking my house. Charles put on the lock either the Saturday or Sunday before the abduction. Mr. Johnson told me I could ride with him.

We went fast—he told me what had taken place. I learned a few minutes before that Mrs. Burdick had been taken off. Saw the cape. It is mine. The sewing of left-handed persons can, in some cases, be distinguished. Saw the gag. I never have been on a bed with Mr. Johnson—there has never been any intercourse between him and me.

JOHN BAXTER, sworn. I was at mother's Sunday night before the abduction. Mr. Johnson found me there. He wanted me to go down and fix the fence—Mr. Hammond's cows were in the meadow. I took an axe from mother's to drive the stakes, and my younger brother went to bring the axe back. Mr. Johnson went up to his farm above.

*Cross-examined.* Johnson left when I did. The cows were not in the lot.

THOMAS BISHOP, sworn. I reside in Greene. Saw Mrs. Burdick a week or ten days after the abduction. Was at Hammond's; my wife was there, and Mr. Robinson and some others. I judged Mrs. B. was deranged. She was talking about everything. She once said she was carried off by Robert and Jeremiah Clinton, who live somewhere in Pennsylvania—said they stopped at Binghamton, also at Union—that they got to Greene Monday evening, and went to Johnson's—that one of them, with her mother, attempted to carry her off that night—that the next day they succeeded—that they were in Hammond's barn. She said Mr. Johnson wrote them and sent them money. She said the bones were taken from a field in Triangle—were buried under a stump—if they had looked close, they might have discovered them—that Mr. J. brought them from Triangle in a sack, and burned them on his side hill in a log heap. She warned her husband to keep in, that an attempt would be made to destroy him—that his life was limited to some four or six months. I put the questions at Mr. Burdick's



request. He and I tried to mesmerize her. He succeeded. I pricked him with a pin and she started. She was half an hour in giving the relation. All of it was while she was in the mesmeric state. She was deranged, and talking on every subject, before and after.

*Cross-examined.* She was under my influence—would answer my questions, and those of no other person. She told who were in the room.

[A deposition of Louisa Bolt was here read, in which she swore that the door was fastened with two nails.]

[Mrs. Burdick's depositions were here read, showing considerable variations in the different accounts she had given of the conversation between her mother and Mr. Johnson, and of her own abduction.]

JAMES ROOS, sworn. I reside in Greene. In 1844, lived in the house with Johnson. It is a large house—four large rooms on the ground. I occupied the South West rooms, and he the South East ones. He and his wife lived there—generally had a girl and sometimes a boy—can't tell who lived with them then. Eliza Johnson was there about that time. I recollect the Sunday Mrs. Bolt disappeared. Bolt was there the Saturday before. I was at home that Sunday evening, and saw Johnson. He came into my room just at dark—came through the hall with his cane in his hand. He staid, I should think, an hour. I conversed with him about coming to Binghamton the next day; and about Bolt's being over the day before. We talked about some work—my hands helped him, and his me. The next morning he got up his horse, said he was going to Binghamton, and started in that direction. Can't say when he returned. My wife was not at home all that evening. She went away about sundown, and came in just as Johnson went out.

*Cross-examined.* I moved there Nov. 1, 1843, and staid till about 1st April, 1845. Mr. Johnson asked me to go

over and see Bolt on the previous Friday—no other business there. I saw Bolt the next day. He asked me if Johnson was at home. I said no. I found him at Cushman's store, and sent him up. Think Dr. Purple and Gray were there. Called him to the door and told him Bolt wanted to see him. He went immediately. I was here at the investigation when witnesses were examined. It was talked as to Johnson's whereabouts that Sunday. I have subpoenaed some of his witnesses. Don't know that I heard Johnson say that he could not remember where he was that Sunday night. I remember that Sunday night. Johnson was at home. I was here almost every day during the examination. Neyer said to Mr. Ketchum or his wife, that Mrs. Burdick must be impeached, or J. would be hung. Told Ransom during the examination, that I knew where Johnson was that night. My recollection is clear—think it was before the investigation closed. Have been active in Johnson's favor. Bolt did not refuse to go over and see Johnson. I did not tell Esq. Lewis that he did. I remained at Bolt's near half an hour—told him J. wanted me to ask what was the difficulty between them. He said J. knew as well as he did. I told him to go over and see Johnson. I had heard that there was difficulty, and that Bolt was going to get him indicted. I remember he had his cane, because my little boy took it, and played with it.

*Direct.* I was constable last November. What I did for Mr. Johnson was in the course of such business. I am Deputy Sheriff of Chenango.

MISS ELIZA JOHNSON, sworn. I am grand-daughter of the prisoner. I lived with him in the spring of '44, for six weeks—slept in the recess adjoining the kitchen; a curtain separated them. Grand-father and grand-mother slept in a bed-room off the kitchen, where we commonly staid. No other member of the family. Roos lived in

the other part of the house. Bolt was there Wednesday, after his wife's disappearance. He was there also before. Mr. Clough first informed me of Mrs. Bolt's disappearance. I am seventeen. Mr. Bolt said she had gone away, and would not be found till she scented. He came to our house in the morning. My grand-father was at home Sunday evening. He was out a portion of the evening. He went out into the hall about dark. He went to bed before I did. He wanted an early breakfast—he harnessed his horse, and said he was going to Binghamton.

*Cross-examined.* Don't recollect ever talking with any one about it, except grand-mother; don't recollect his ever going to Triangle in the night; never have been asked what I would swear to.

LUCINDA ROOS, sworn. Am the wife of James Roos; the Sunday evening referred to by my husband, I went out to Mr. Turk's; heard Johnson and my husband converse about some work.

*Cross-examined.* Don't know of Johnson's going off, about that time, at night; never told Mr. Turk I had heard a scream that night.

MRS. CORNELIA WATERMAN, sworn. Live in Triangle, about half a mile from the Bolt house; the teams were about half an hour behind Johnson's carriage; after Mrs. Bolt's disappearance, Louisa Bolt said the door was fastened by a nail driven over the latch, a cracked one.

EUGENE CUSHMAN, sworn. Am a merchant in Greene; took Mr. Griswold's butter; the entry is Tuesday, 23d Sept.; Mr. Johnson was there the day Mr. Griswold came with his butter; told Johnson, Griswold was coming; J. was there about four hours.

*Cross-examined.* Was here before on the examination; have been active in the matter—am here upon the request of counsel, have not been subpoenaed; have not been

requested by Johnson's counsel to say anything about this prosecution; J. is at my store almost every day.

JAMES ROOS, recalled. Transacted business in Smithville, in Sept. last about a mortgage; Johnson was with me; we left in the morning and got back at 3 P. M.; I wrote the receipt on the mortgage; it was Monday, the 22d Sept.

*Cross-examined.* Took dinner that day at my mother's; came back with Johnson.

PHILO CALENDER, sworn. Saw Johnson in Smithville on the 22d day of Sept., '45. He was in company with Mr. Roos. I charged him ham that day. Have served subpoenas for him—am deputy Sheriff.

ERASTUS FOOTE, sworn. Was counsel for Reed. Mr. Johnson came to the village after dinner. We went to the office between one and two. He was a material witness. Should think we were before the justice an hour. This was the 18th Sept.

J. Roos, recalled. Saw Johnson about the office a good part of Thursday. It is over one-third of a mile from Mrs. Baxter's to Esq. Lewis' office.

G. W. HOTCHKISS, sworn. Am an Att'y and Counsellor at Binghamton. Have been doing business with which Johnson was connected. Saw him on Tuesday, 16th Sept. at about nine o'clock A. M. Am Supreme Court Commissioner. Gave him a petition dated that day. He went out of my office to go to Maj. Hawley's. Was gone about two hours. Came back, and Elias Hawley with him. He was in and out of my office in the afternoon and evening. Have an impression that he was still here on the 17th.

J. Roos, recalled. On Saturday I went to Norwich—started about 1 o'clock; saw Johnson a few minutes before we started from Greene.

ELIZABETH PETERSON, sworn. Reside in Bingham-

ton; rode to Greene last fall with the prisoner; it was on Wednesday the 17th or 18th of September; it was before Miss Ransom went to New-York; returned on the 25th; reached Greene about 2 o'clock P. M.; took tea on Friday at Mr. Johnson's.

E. CUSHMAN, recalled. Johnson and Miss Peterson got to Greene about 2 P. M.; Johnson was very busy with the Reed matter; think he was at my store Friday.

DR. AMARIAH BRIGHAM, sworn. I have charge of the Lunatic Asylum at Utica. Ann Augusta Burdick was brought to the Asylum at Utica, Oct. 24th, 1845, by her husband. When she first came she appeared calm. I directed her to lie down to obtain rest, and after that I did not see her for about two hours. She soon became deranged and had spasms, and my attention was called to her on that account. Her spasms were severe and frequent, and at times she was delirious, and at other times she was apparently quiet and sane. She was diseased bodily as well as mentally, and required and received medical treatment. For three or four days she required the almost constant attention of three or four persons, and after that we felt less anxious about her. Her mind then became apparently settled. When delirious she would talk, and when she became sane she seemed to forget what she had said when delirious, and when she became delirious again she would apparently take up the train of thought which occupied her mind during her previous delirium. When she left the Asylum I supposed her to be rational. When she came to the Asylum I found she did not tell her stories twice alike, but at length she would tell them repeatedly alike. I saw her on Tuesday last at Greene, she knew me at once, and inquired after persons she had seen at Utica. I have seen her here at court and have heard her testify. It is my opinion that she is entirely sane. Terror



and fright are apt to produce insanity or epilepsy. Such an occurrence as she has described would be likely to produce insanity. I have known several instances where persons in health have, by a great fright, been made insane. She has a strong predisposition to insanity, being highly nervous and subject to hysterics, which is a species of insanity.

*Cross-examined.* Persons subject to hysterics for years have a tendency to insanity; and hysterical women do the most strange things of any class of persons, sane or insane. I speak from my own observation, and history attests its correctness. Hysterical women will deceive their friends, and frequently their physicians, by inventing stories, with little if any regard to truth; and will, in carrying on the deception, submit to painful operations by the physician or surgeon, and I am not prepared to say but that they do in part deceive themselves. I do not attribute their false statements to moral obliquity, theologically speaking, as the obliquity is produced by disease. They are apparently sincere, and I have never known one to own the deception. It is a diseased state of the nervous system, and I think the subject is irresponsible. The doctor here enumerated instances where males and females pretended to be strangely affected, and submitted to painful and unpleasant operations, and some of them carrying out the deception so adroitly, as to deceive the attending physician, the clergyman and indeed the whole neighborhood. Insane persons often inflict injuries upon themselves in order to charge others with the commission of an offence; and cases have occurred where insane persons have admitted themselves to be guilty of crimes committed by others. Hysterical females see visions and dream dreams, that are so vivid that they take them for realities. There is a person at Utica who a year after he had recovered from his insanity

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could not rid himself of the fancies conceived by him when insane. Nervous persons sometimes feign fits in order to obtain medical advice, and when one hysterical person alledges she is affected in a particular manner, another hearing of it is very apt to be exercised in the same way. Hysterical and nervous women will perform the most marvellous and mysterious things imaginable. They will cut their flesh, and do other things, and with apparent honesty and sincerity charge their commission upon others.

*Direct, resumed.* When persons make statements at one time that they forget at another time, it is an evidence of a poor memory or a diseased mind. Hysterical fancies and strange delusions are very likely to occur in young females that menstruate, and it is highly probable that they are themselves deceived. The length of time the patient has been subject to hysteria will make no material difference. When any remarkable occurrence takes place in a neighborhood and it is much talked over, a nervous female will be apt to dream of it, and after dreaming will mix up facts with what is purely imaginary, and be apparently incapable of separating facts from fancy.

*Question by the Court.* Leaving the abduction of Mrs. Burdick out of the question, what would you think of her statement about the bones, made in her nervous and excitable condition? I should regard the story of the bones, apart from the abduction, a vision. The witness further stated, in answer to an interrogatory, that he had not made up his mind as to the story detailed by Mrs. Burdick, for it might be supported by corroborating facts and circumstances—and if he had formed an opinion, he thought he ought not to give it. He regarded this Mrs. Burdick as an artless, unoffending girl—honest in her statements; but she is a person of a highly nervous tempera-

ment and hysterical. Should believe hysterical persons on some subjects—their testimony should be received with caution. They often say things in that state, (*hysteria*,) which they do not recollect when sane.

[The Defence here rested.]

BENJAMIN THURBER, *called by the Prosecution*. Know Mrs. Baxter; know her general reputation; it is bad; from that reputation, would not believe her under oath.

[The testimony was brought to a close on Tuesday evening. MR. DICKINSON summed up for the Defence on Wednesday forenoon—MR. BIRDSALL for the People in the afternoon. MR. COLLIER, for the Defence, occupied Wednesday evening and Thursday morning. MR. COOK closed on the side of the Prosecution; and after a full charge from JUDGE GRAY, the Jury retired about four o'clock P. M., and after deliberating about half an hour, returned a verdict of NOT GUILTY.]

It is unnecessary to add that the trial was very ably conducted on both sides.]

*Note, by Ed. Jour. Insanity.* For the foregoing correct Report, we are indebted to the *Binghamton Courier*. Nothing has occurred since the trial, of which we have heard, calculated to throw light upon the mysterious circumstances of the affair. That a woman in a deranged state of mind disappeared as stated, several years since and has not since been found—and that another woman disappeared from her home in the day-time, and was found imbedded in a brook in a swamp, with her hands bound and a gag in her mouth and nearly dead, are *facts*. How these occurrences were produced, we leave for others and for time to explain.



## ARTICLE IV.

*Description of the Pleasure Grounds and Farm of the Pennsylvania Hospital for the Insane, with remarks. By*

THOMAS S. KIRKBRIDE, M. D., *Physician to the Institution. (With a plate.)*

The pleasure grounds and farm of the Pennsylvania Hospital for the Insane, as shown in the accompanying plan, comprise a tract of one hundred and ten acres of well improved land, lying two miles west of the City of Philadelphia, between the Westchester and Haverford roads, on the latter of which is the only gate of entrance.

Of this land, forty-one and three-quarter acres constitute the pleasure grounds, which surround the Hospital buildings, and are enclosed by a substantial stone wall, of an average height of ten and a half feet. The remaining sixty-nine and one-quarter acres comprise the farm of the Institution.

From the character of the ground near the Hospital, the wall surrounding the pleasure grounds is so arranged, as to be almost entirely out of sight from the buildings, and only a small part of it can be seen from any one point within the enclosure.

The entrance to the enclosure is through a handsome gate-way, on the west side of which is the Gate-keeper's Lodge, and on the opposite side is a room for laying out the dead, access to which may be had from within as well as from without the pleasure grounds.

Carriages drive to the western front of the centre building of the Hospital, that being most convenient in

every respect, but the eastern is the architectural front and of most pretensions.

The pleasure grounds of the two sexes are very effectually separated on the eastern side, by the deer-park, surrounded by a high palisade fence, but the Park itself is so low that it is completely overlooked from both sides; and the different animals in it are in full view from the adjoining grounds used by the patients of both sexes.

At the extreme end of the deer-park, it is joined by the drying-yard which completes the separation of the sexes in that direction. In this yard, are the wash-house and the pump and pond from which water is raised into the tanks in the dome of the centre building. This pond is supplied from various springs on the premises, and there is ample space in the yard for drying clothes in fine weather.

East of the entrance is the private yard and residence of the Physician of the Institution, being the mansion house on the farm when purchased by the Hospital. The vegetable garden containing three and a half acres is next, and in it are the green-house, hot-beds, seed-houses, &c. The remainder of the grounds on this side of the deer-park is specially appropriated to the use of the male patients. In this division is a fine grove of large trees, several detached clumps of various kinds and a great variety of single trees standing alone or in avenues along the different walks, which, of brick, gravel or tan, are for the men, more than a mile and a quarter in extent. The groves are fitted up with seats and summer houses, and have various means of exercise and amusement connected with them.

There is a single private yard of good size for gentlemen who wish to be less public than in the grounds, or for those whose mental condition renders more seclusion

desirable. This yard is planted with trees and has broad brick walks passing round it. Between the north lodge and the deer-park, separated from the latter by a sunk palisade fence, is a neat flower garden.

In connexion with each lodge, as now enlarged or about to be, are three small yards paved with brick, and accessible to the patients of the respective divisions with which they are connected.

The work-shop and lumber-yard are just within the main entrance on the west—adjoining which is a fine grove, in which is the gentlemen's ten-pin alley.

In the pleasure grounds of the ladies, is a fine piece of woods, from which the farm is overlooked, as well as both of the public roads passing along the premises, and a handsome district of country beyond. The wall here is forty feet below the platform on which the Hospital stands, and is at the foot of a steep hill, so that it is not seen at all unless persons are in it's immediate proximity.

The summer-houses, rustic-seats, exercising-swings &c., in this division, are all in particularly pleasant positions. The cottage fronts the woods, and in every part this portion of the grounds is completely protected from intrusion and observation.

The undulating character of the pleasure grounds throughout, gives them many advantages, and the brick, gravel and tan walks for the ladies, are more than a mile in extent.

As on the men's side, there is a private yard for females, and the flower-garden in front of the lodge, and the paved yards connected with it are similarly arranged.

The semi-circular yard, on the eastern side of the main building is surrounded by flower borders, contains the circular pleasure Rail-road, and is used at different hours, by patients of both sexes.

In the arrangement and location of the walks for the patients, great pains have been taken to give as much extent and variety as possible, and to bring into view objects of interest, not only within the enclosure, but in the well improved district of country immediately around the Hospital.

The carriage road is sufficiently extended to give a pretty thorough view of the whole grounds, and of the farm and scenery beyond. This is occasionally used very advantageously, for giving carriage exercise to patients who could not with propriety be taken to more public situations.

The fences that have been put up, were rendered necessary by the uses to which the different parts of the grounds were appropriated. A large part of the palisade fences, like those enclosing the deer-park and drying-yard, were to effect the separation of the sexes, and the close fences have been made, almost invariably, for the sole purpose of protecting the patients from observation, and giving them the proper degree of privacy.

The farm, partly meadow-land, is divided into fields of convenient size for cultivation. It has two pleasant groves on it, a stone-quarry, two good springs of water, besides Mill Creek and a mill-race, which pass through it. The residence of the farmer and gardener are outside of the enclosure, as well as the ice-house, spring-house, coach-house, barn, stabling and other arrangements proper for a well conducted farm.

An outline of the ground-plan of the Hospital and other buildings is shown on the sketch. All of these are now erected and in use, except the additions on the north and south sides of the Lodge for females, which it is hoped will be completed during the coming summer.

REMARKS.—The location of institutions for the insane within the limits of large cities or in their immediate

vicinity, was certainly one of the unfortunate errors committed by our ancestors when making provision for this afflicted class, and tended as much perhaps as badly arranged buildings and defective schemes of organization, to prevent their inmates from receiving the advantages to be derived from a liberal and enlightened system of treatment. Without intending it, the founders of some of these institutions, by their location necessarily gave them much more of a prison character than would otherwise have been required.

There will probably, at this day, be found few persons who would dissent from the general proposition, that all institutions for the care and treatment of the insane should be placed in the country—although there may be some difference of opinion as to the precise distance from a town that is desirable. A reasonable proximity to a large town, always offers many advantages that may be made available in the management of a hospital for the insane, and used to add to enjoyment and improvement of the patients. If accessible by a turnpike or good common road, about two miles will be found a convenient distance, while if a Rail-road is used for this purpose, a much greater distance will not be objectionable.

Facility of access at all seasons, to persons bringing patients, or to their friends when visiting them, should never be forgotten when selecting the site for such an institution, and the spot chosen should have a well established character for healthfulness—be supplied with an abundance of water—certainly not less than four thousand gallons daily, for hospital purposes, with good means of drainage—the land should be fertile and easy of cultivation, and there should be fine scenery and objects of interest in the vicinity, that the walks and rides of the patients may be sufficiently varied and attractive.



There is little risk of possessing too much land in connection with a hospital for the insane, although the amount may very properly be varied according to the number and class of patients who are received. Much less than fifty acres about any institution, let the size be what it may, must necessarily subject it to many and serious inconveniences. One hundred acres is generally a much more desirable quantity, and for large establishments, particularly State institutions, where a large number of agricultural laborers will probably be received, a still larger amount will often be required. Nearly the whole amount first named will be desirable for pleasure grounds for the patients, for vegetable and flower gardens, and to give a proper degree of exercise in the open air, even where a farm is dispensed with.

The cultivation of the gardens and the improvement of the pleasure grounds, offer the generality of patients the most desirable forms of labour. It is sufficiently varied, not too laborious, and in some division of it many will engage who could not be induced to assist upon the farm or in any other kind of employment, out of doors. The vegetable garden should be large enough to furnish all of that description of supplies that may be required for the institution, and may occasionally be made profitable from sales of the excess. The flower gardens should be as extensive as can be well taken care of by the inmates and persons employed in the Hospital. The good influences which these, as well as a high state of improvement about the buildings, generally produce on patients and their friends, is often of great importance.

If the pleasure grounds are sufficiently extensive it is desirable that the two sexes should have their portions, entirely distinct, although some parts may be used in common, under the superintendence and direction of the proper officer. Without this arrangement certain classes

will be much more restricted in out-door exercise than is proper or desirable.

As much as possible of the grounds belonging to a hospital for the insane should be permanently enclosed by a substantial wall of stone or brick. This wall should always be so arranged as in at least a considerable part of its extent, to be completely out of view from the buildings, either by being placed in low ground, if that is practicable, or if not, it can readily be arranged, by being sunk in certain places in an artificial trench, and thus to prevent its being an unpleasant feature, or to give the idea of a prison enclosure. Such a wall however, useful as it is, had much better not be put up, unless to enclose a large number of acres, or unless it can be kept from being a prominent object from the buildings.

It is a very common error to suppose that a wall of the kind referred to is simply to prevent the escape of patients. There are some who would ramble away without definite object, if there was no wall, and many, who might walk off intentionally if there was no obstruction, would be prevented by the trouble it would require to scale it, but these are entirely secondary to the advantages which are given by keeping improper persons out, by securing complete privacy to the institution, allowing all classes to take exercise in the open air, protecting them while out of the wards, from the unfeeling gaze and remarks of passers by, and preserving the grounds, gardens and improvements from injuries, which to a greater or less extent they are sure to receive, if accessible to the population, which is apt at times to wander within a few miles of large cities. A live wall,—a body of well instructed, judicious attendants, ample in number to give a proper degree of liberty, and yet to remove all opportunities of escape is the only adequate security that patients will be kept within a large enclosure, or on the grounds of an institution.

The vegetable garden should always be within the enclosure, as it will then always be available in furnishing labor as a remedial means to a much larger number than under other circumstances.

The value of a farm in connection with these institutions will, as has been already intimated, depend very much upon the size of the institution and the character of its patients. Generally however it will be found desirable, and if well managed, ought to prove profitable pecuniarily, as well as in reference to the health of the patients.

Several years official connection with three institutions for the Insane, differing widely in the character and extent of their pleasure grounds and in the amount of land, that was available for the use of their patients, has compelled the writer to witness the serious disadvantages which must constantly result from the defective arrangements in these particulars, and has caused him, whenever counselled on the subject, to urge in the strongest terms, upon all who have authority in deciding upon the circumstances under which new institutions are to be started, to permit no appearance of temporary advantage—which can hardly fail in the end to prove a delusion—to tempt them to erect a hospital for the Insane, except where there is plenty of land of the right kind, properly located, with an abundance of water, and with all the other natural advantages and capabilities for improvement, which properly used, will make it in all future time, a spot worthy to be sought for by the afflicted as relief from their sufferings, and capable of having carried out, in connection with it, every detail of the most liberal and enlightened system of treatment.

*Philadelphia, March, 1848.*

## ARTICLE V.

*Insane Monarchs.*

In February, 1820, George the Third descended to the grave. Never, I believe, did any prince—not even Elizabeth—leave behind him a memory more cherished by his subjects! Confined as he was to his apartments at Windsor, unseen except by his medical attendants, having long ceased to live, in a moral and in a political sense; deprived of sight as well as of intellect; and oppressed under the weight of old age; yet his people have clung to his memory with a sort of superstitious reverence; as if, while he still continued an inhabitant of the earth, his existence suspended or averted national calamities. This affectionate respect he owed far more to his moral qualities, than to his abilities or mental endowments; and his long reign, if considered only as a period of time, abstracted from the consideration of the sovereign, presents a melancholy picture of enormous public debt, immense territorial loss, and most ruinous hostilities. Between 1760 and 1812, when he had ceased to reign, a period of fifty-two years, we enjoyed scarcely twenty-four of peace. The decease of every other sovereign recorded in history, labouring under incurable mental derangement, has always been considered as a consummation equally happy for the individual and for the community. George the Third is the *seventh* prince whom Europe has beheld during the last four centuries, seated on a throne, and alienated in mind. Of the seven, *two* have been females, and *three* have reigned in our own days. Germany, France, Spain, Sweden, Denmark, Por-

tugal, and England, have each, in turn, exhibited this painful spectacle.

The *first* in order of time, Wenceslaus of Luxembourg, Emperor of Germany and King of Bohemia, ascended the throne in 1378, before he had well attained to manhood; and, like Nero, at first gave hopes of many virtues. But they soon became obscured under the most scandalous and vicious excesses. In *him*, insanity was produced by the combination of an understanding naturally feeble, with furious passions and ungovernable appetites, whose indulgence rendered him frantic. Deposed from the imperial throne, repeatedly imprisoned, and degraded to the lowest point of wretchedness, he was nevertheless permitted to retain the title of king, and died in 1419, at Prague.

The *second* instance of royal insanity was presented nearly about the same period, in the person of Charles the Sixth of France; a prince on whom, with more reason than on Louis the Fifteenth, his subjects bestowed the epithet of "le Bien-aimé." Endowed by nature with faculties adequate to the weight of government, a constitutional tendency to mental alienation, which appears to have been inflamed by *coup de soleil*, terminated ultimately in madness. Under so severe an affliction he laboured during thirty years; not, indeed, constantly deprived of reason: for, like George the Third, he enjoyed intervals of sound understanding; relapsing nevertheless from time to time into total incapacity. Charles terminated his life and reign three years after Wenceslaus, amidst scenes of national distress, and of personal destitution, the most deplorable.

Jane, surnamed "la Folle," or the Mad, daughter of Ferdinand and Isabella, sister to Catherine of Arragon, Henry the Eighth's wife, herself the greatest princess in Europe, Queen in her own right of Spain and of the



Indies, who forms the *third* example, remained in a state of incurable lunacy during nearly fifty years. In *her*, it resulted from original weakness of intellect, aggravated by the untimely death of her husband, Philip "le Bel," on whom, notwithstanding his indifference towards her, she doated with undiminished fondness. Immured in the castle of Tordesillas on the Douro, by her son, the Emperor Charles the Fifth, from the age of twenty-four to seventy-three; neglected, forgotten, sleeping on straw, which she sometimes wanted, though her apartments were hung with tapestry;—she expired in 1555, an awful monument of human misery combined with the highest earthly dignities.

Sweden offers the *fourth* instance of a crowned head bereft of reason, in the person of Eric the Fourteenth, eldest son and successor of the great Gustavus Vasa. He probably inherited at his birth the intellectual malady which precipitated him from the throne, his mother having been confined on a similar account. Eric, who was deposed in 1568, after a reign of eight years—whose remaining life was passed in captivity, transferred from one prison to another; and over the precise nature of whose death a veil is drawn—like those of Richard the Second, of Henry the Sixth, and of Edward the Fifth, in our own annals;—Eric, ferocious, sanguinary, and cruel, as he ultimately became, seems, when not under the dominion of frenzy, to have been mild, tractable, and humane.

We now arrive at the present times. Here, Christian the Seventh, King of Denmark, furnishes the *fifth* exhibition of disordered reason among the sovereigns of Europe. It was neither constitutional nor hereditary in *him*. Excesses, followed by diseases, and the imprudent use of remedies, wholly deprived him of understanding before he had well accomplished his twenty-third year.

From 1772 down to 1808, when he ceased to exist, Christian remained the victim of debilities, mental and corporeal, the most humiliating and incurable in their nature. If I do not relate the particulars of his condition, it is not because I am unacquainted with them, but from motives of delicacy and concern.

Widely different were the causes which deprived of intellect Maria, Queen of Portugal; a princess endowed with many virtues, animated by the best intentions towards her people, and by no means destitute of qualities or talents worthy a throne. Superstition, combining with a melancholy temperament, overturned her mind. She forms the *sixth* in this line. Dr. Willis, who was principally instrumental in restoring George the Third to health, and who soon afterwards visited Portugal, in the expectation that he might effect a similar recovery in the queen, found her beyond his art. Sir Sydney Smith nevertheless assured me, that soon after she embarked on board his ship in the Tagus, towards the close of 1807, when she was seventy-three years old, she perfectly recovered her reason during about twenty-four hours, at the end of which time she relapsed into her former disordered state. It is an extraordinary fact, that the two last-mentioned sovereigns should both have been driven out of their respective capitals about the same time; one, by the English; the other, by the French. Christian was conveyed into Holstein, previous to the siege of Copenhagen. Maria, expelled from Lisbon, crossed the equinoctial line, and found an asylum in the southern hemisphere.

George the Third, who closes this procession of kings and queens "beheld in dim eclipse," is justly embalmed in the affection of his subjects. Yet his reign may with truth be divided into two portions: the first comprising about twenty-two years, from 1760 down to 1782, during

which he enjoyed little or no popularity; the last, of seven-and-thirty years, throughout the whole of which period, though the greater part of it was passed in war, his virtues have obtained for him a higher place in our esteem than any prince has occupied since the Norman Conquest. Elizabeth, and William the Third, were sovereigns of much greater talents; so were Henry the Second and Edward the Third, but beneath him considered in a moral point of view.—*Wrazall's Posthumous Memoirs.*

## ARTICLE VI.

[We present our readers, in the following article, an account of one of the most singular events that history records. We presume many will infer from its perusal, that the principal actor, like Joan of Arc, was affected by a species of insanity. It is on this account, that we publish it in this Journal, though we do not fully coincide in the opinion that she was insane.]

### Charlotte Corday.

“Le crime fait la honte, et non pas l'échafaud.”

CORNEILLE.

The eleventh of July, 1793, it was reported in Paris, that Marat had just been assassinated. Such a report dared scarce be confided but to friends. It was soon confirmed, however, by the fury and imprecations of the Jacobin party. A woman had stricken the blow; she glories in her deed; she awaits her punishment; nor has she sought to evade it by concealment. It was Charlotte Corday.

She was born in the department of Orin, and resided at Caen. Her father, a gentleman of ancient family, enjoyed an easy fortune. Her age was twenty-five years; her figure beautiful and regular, and her countenance was animated with the purest coloring. Everything in her features and manners indicated that, in elevating herself above the strength, she had not compromised the modesty of her sex. The care of pleasing by dress seemed frivolous to her; she fulfilled with tenderness the duties of filial piety; but in domestic life had maintained or preserved herself an independence. Perhaps the loftiness of her spirit had withdrawn her from feeling a passion which forms the destiny of a woman. One passion alone had for a length of time occupied her thoughts; it was that of liberty. She drew constantly in her mind the humiliating contrast between that liberty, the object of her adoration, and the odious phantom with which France had been presented. When the proscribed deputies arrived at Caen, she pitied their misfortunes: she saw all those of her country. Placed too far from the theatre of events, she comprehended badly their cause. She saw thousands of tyrants; she believed they were in subordination to a chief, and the most ferocious appeared to be the most suitable amongst them. The two most generous sentiments of nature, pity and indignation, filled Charlotte Corday with a species of fanaticism. Her resolution was taken, and she experienced in anticipation all the joy attending the commission of a great action. The serenity of her countenance deceived her father and her friends. She set out for Paris. In the public diligence, she exhibited to her companions an amiable sprightliness, which even the conversation of some Jacobins who were of the party failed to interrupt. The first day of her arrival at the capital, was employed in acquitting herself of certain commissions with which

she had been entrusted. Trifling cares seemed to occupy all her attention. The next day she proceeded to the Palais Royal, and purchased the knife she designed to plunge into the bosom of a tyrant. She examined and carried this weapon away with her, with an air of indifference. She caused herself to be conveyed to the house of Marat. The den of the tiger was closed to her. Her eagerness excited the suspicion of a woman whom Marat called his friend. Charlotte perceived that it was necessary to deceive him, and laid a snare for his ferocity. She wrote him the following billet, in which it may be seen, that by a fortunate equivocation, she consoles herself for being obliged to flatter him:

"*Citizen*: I arrive from Caen; your love for the country has caused me to presume that you would learn with pleasure the unfortunate events of this part of the Republic. I will present myself at your house; have the goodness to receive and grant me a moment's conversation. I will place you by the same, in a situation to render France an important service. CHARLOTTE CORDAY.

The following day Charlotte wrote him another letter and presented herself a second time at the house of Marat. The same woman disputed her entrance. Marat overheard their altercation, and ordered her to be introduced. He was at the time in the bath.

He interrogated Charlotte; she dissembles. He wishes to have the names of all the deputies who had taken refuge at Caen. She repeats them to him, and Marat transcribes them with the same exultation, as though he were for the first time about to place them upon a list of proscription. "It is well," he said with the accent of a man sure of his vengeance, "before eight days they shall all go to the guillotine!"

At these words, as if the soul of Charlotte had waited for a last crime to decide her to strike the stroke, she



draws from her bosom the knife and plunges it with a supernatural force up to the handle into the heart of Marat. Charlotte withdraws with the same movement the bloodied weapon from the body of the victim and lets it fall at her feet. "To me! my dear friend! to me!" cries Marat, and expires under the blow.

Women run to his assistance: Charlotte Corday remains immoveable; she becomes the prey of their fury. The guard arrives; she places herself under its protection, and is conducted to the Abbaye.

Charlotte Corday, however, experiences in her prison a sentiment of pride and of peace. She was without resentment for all the vexations that were added to her captivity, save such as wounded her modesty. The hour of glory has arrived for her; it is that in which she appeared before her Judges; for the Jacobins allowed her Judges and even counsel for her defense. The people flocked in crowds to behold her. They declare aloud their detestation; while in a low voice they signify their admiration of her conduct.

The president of the revolutionary tribunal, Montane, touched with so much beauty and youth, and convinced of the sincerity of a fanaticism which rendered almost innocent the assassin in the eyes of human justice, he wished to save the life of the accused. He directed questions and insinuated tacitly the answers to induce the Judges to conclude on madness rather than crime. Charlotte obstinately deceived the merciful intention of the president. She claimed her act as her glory. They transported her to the Conciergerie.

Her interrogation proceeds. History cannot better characterize this prodigy of enthusiasm and elevation of soul than relating some of the answers of Charlotte Corday.

"All these details are useless. It is I who have killed

Marat! What induced you to commit the assassination? demanded the President of her. His crimes. What do you mean by his crimes? The misfortunes of which he has been the cause since the revolution, and those he was yet preparing for France. Who prevailed upon you to commit this assassination? No one; it was myself alone, who conceived the idea of it. How are the refugee deputies employed at Caen? They wait till anarchy ceases, to resume their posts. Was it to a priest who had taken the oath, or one who had not, that you confessed yourself at Caen? I went neither to the one nor the other. What were your intentions in killing Marat? To cause the cessation of the troubles of France. Was it a long time since you formed this project? Since the transaction of 31st of May; the day of the proscription of the deputies of the people. It is from the journals then that you have learned that Marat was an anarchist? Yes, I knew that he was overturning France. I killed, him added she, elevating her voice to the highest tone, I killed one man to save an hundred thousand; a wicked one to save the innocent; a ferocious beast to give repose to my country. I was a republican before the revolution, and have never wanted energy. What do you mean by energy? I mean by energy, the sentiment which animates those who laying aside private interest, are able to sacrifice themselves for their country." To the question, have you ever loved a man? she answered, "Never!"

These answers, precise, proud, disdainful by turns, made in a voice whose sound recalled childhood, while announcing masculine thoughts, induced the interrogators often to reflect upon the power of fanaticism which borrowed and strengthened so feeble a hand. They hoped always to discover an instigator behind that candor and that beauty. They only found the inspiration of an intrepid heart.

The interrogatory terminated, Chabot discontented with the result, devoured with his eye, the visage, the stature, the whole person of the young girl bound before him. He believed that he perceived a paper folded and attached by a pin upon her bosom; he stretched out his hand to seize it. Charlotte had forgotten the paper of which Chabot obtained a glimpse and which contained an address to the French people, prepared by herself, to invite the citizens to the punishment of tyrants and to concord. She thought she saw in the gesture and in the eye of Chabot an outrage to her modesty. Deprived of her two hands, by the cords, she was not able to oppose them to the insult. The horror and indignation which she had experienced, caused her to make a movement in the rear of the body and shoulders, so sudden and so convulsive, that the cord of her robe broke, and the robe itself, being detached, left uncovered her bosom. Confused, she bent herself as quick as thought and folded herself in two to hide her nudity from the judges. It was too late, her purity had to blush before the eye of man.

Patriotism did not render these men cynics nor insensible. They appeared to suffer as much as Charlotte at that involuntary punishment of her innocence. She supplicated that they would loose her hands that she might fasten her robe. One of them detached the cords. Respect for nature closed the eyes of these men. Her hands loosed, Charlotte turned herself towards the wall and readjusted her neckerchief.

During her interrogation, Charlotte perceived a man sketching her features; she kept herself turned towards him without affectation. She had a zealous council in Chauveau-Lagorde. The manner in which he defended the accused, was pleasing to her haughty spirit. His discourse was as follows:

“The accused confesses with deliberation, the horri-

ble crime she has committed ; she confesses with deliberation, her long premeditation of it ; in one word, she confesses everything, and does not even seek to justify herself. This, citizens, jurors, is her whole defence. This imperturbable calm and this entire negation of self, which announce no remorse in the presence of death itself ; this calm and self-denial, sublime in every respect are not in the course of nature ; they can only be explained by that exaltation of political fanaticism, which has placed a poignard in her hand ; and it is for you, citizen's jurors, to determine what weight this moral consideration should have in the balance of justice. I rely upon your wisdom."

On hearing her sentence of condemnation pronounced, Charlotte Corday displayed a movement of joy, as though she had attained her reward. She afterwards placed in the hands of the President, two letters, one addressed to her father, the other to Barbaroux. The letter, which is too long to be inserted here, abounds with grace and elevated sentiments.

"We are," said she in it, "such good republicans at Paris, that we cannot conceive how a useless woman, the longest term of whose life would conduce to no good, can with so much deliberation sacrifice herself to save her country. \* \* \* \* I enjoy a delicious tranquility. The happiness of my country completes my own." The letter to her father is conceived in the following terms :

"Pardon me, my dear father, for having disposed of my existence without your permission ; I have avenged many innocent victims. I have prevented many other disasters ; the people, one day undeceived, will rejoice to have been delivered from a tyrant. If I sought to persuade you that I was about to retire into England, it was because I hoped to preserve my *incognito*, but I have recognised the impossibility of doing so. I hope that

you will not be disturbed ; in any case you will have those at Caen who will defend you. I have chosen Gustave Doulcet to defend me. Such a crime as mine does not admit of defense ; it is only for form's sake that I have chosen counsel. Farewell, my dear father ! I pray you to forget me, or rather to rejoice at my fate—the cause of it is good. I embrace my sister, whom I love with all my heart, as well as all my relations. Do not forget that verse of Corneille : “ The crime, and not the scaffold, makes the shame.”

“ It is to-morrow at eight o'clock that I am to be tried.”

‘ The 16th of July, 1793.

C. CORDAY.”

The artist, who had sketched the features of Charlotte Corday before the tribunal, was M. Hauer, painter and officer of the National Guard of the section of the Theatre-Francais. Having re-entered her dungeon, she begged the door-keeper to permit him to enter to finish his work. M. Hauer was introduced. Charlotte thanked him for the interest he appeared to take in her fate, and took her position before him with serenity. It might have been said that in permitting him to transmit her features and physiognomy to posterity, she charged him to transmit her soul and patriotism visible to generations to come. She conversed with M. Hauer about his art, the event of the day, of the peace which the act gave her, which she had consummated. She spoke of the young friends of her childhood at Caen, and prayed the artist to copy, in miniature, the large portrait which he made, and to send that miniature to her family.

In the midst of that conversation, mingled with silence, they heard a gentle knock at the door of the dungeon placed behind the accused. They opened it, it was the executioner. Charlotte, turning at the noise, perceived



the scissors and the red "chemise," which the executioner carried on his arm. Her countenance grew pale and she shuddered at that exhibition. "What already!" she cried involuntarily. Soon she restrengthened herself, and casting a look on the unfinished portrait: "Monsieur," she said to the artist with a sad and benevolent smile, "I do not know how to thank you for the care you have taken. I have only that to offer you, preserve it as a memorial of your goodness and of my gratitude." In saying these words she took the scissors from the hand of the executioner, and cutting a lock of her long hair, which escaped from her bonnet, she presented it to M. Hauer. The gendarmes and the executioner, at these words and this gesture, felt the tears mount into their eyes.

A priest, authorized by the public accuser, presented himself according to usage, to offer her the consolations of religion. "Thank those who have been so attentive as to send you," she said to him with an affectionate grace, "but I have no need of your ministry. The blood which I have shed, and my own which I am going to pour out, are the only sacrifices I can make to the Eternal." The executioner cut off her hair, tied her hands and put on her the "chemise" of the executed. "Behold," she said smiling, "the toilette of death made by hands a little rude, but it conducts to immortality."

The next day she was conducted to punishment at seven o'clock in the evening. On seeing her, it was no longer permitted to think of the ignominious pageant with which she was surrounded. She might have been described as a young virgin, who followed with modesty and serenity, a festival, the object of which was to crown her virtue. All the people, she had under her eyes, appeared to her enfranchised by her hands.

Charlotte grew pale on seeing the instrument of punishment. She quickly resumed her natural color and

mounted the slippery steps of the scaffold, with a step as firm and as light as her dragging "chemise" and tied hands permitted. When the executioner, to uncover her neck, tore off the neckerchief which covered her breast, humiliated modesty gave her more emotion than the death so near at hand; but resuming her serenity and her almost joyous transport towards eternity, she placed herself, her neck under the hatchet. Her head rolled and rebounded.

"Such," says Lamartine, in his *History of the Girondins*, where will be found fuller details of the Life and Death of Charlotte Corday, "such was the end of Marat. Such were the life and death of Charlotte Corday. In the presence of murder, history does not dare to glorify; in the presence of heroism, history dares not to wither. The appreciation of such an act places the mind in the formidable alternative of not recognizing virtue or praising assassination. As that painter who, despairing of being able to render the complex expression of a mixed sentiment, cast a veil over the face of his model and left a problem to the spectator, we must cast this mystery to be debated forever in the abyss of the human conscience. There are some things which man does not know how to judge and which mount without mediation and without appeal to the direct tribunal of God. There are some human acts so mingled with weakness and force, with pure intencion and culpable means, with error and truth, with murder and martyrdom, that they cannot be glorified by a single word, and one does not know whether to call them criminal or virtuous. The culpable devotion of Charlotte Corday is in the number of those acts which admiration and horror should leave forever in doubt, if the "morale" did not reprove them. As to ourselves, if we had to find for this sublime liberator of our country and this generous murderess of tyranny, a name which should

include at once the enthusiasm of our emotion for her and the severity of our judgment on her act, we should create a word which would unite the two extremes of admiration and horror in the language of men, and we should call her the *angel of assassination*.

The heroism of Charlotte was chanted by Andre Chénier, who was soon to die himself . . . . for liberty. The poetry of all nations possessed itself of the name of Charlotte Corday, to make of it the terror of tyrants. "What tomb is that?" sings the German poet Klopstock. "It is the tomb of Charlotte. Let us go to gather flowers and scatter the leaves over her ashes, for she died for her country. No, no, do not gather anything. Let us go to seek a weeping-willow and let us plant it upon her green sod, for she has died for her country. No, no, do not plant anything, but weep and let your tears be blood, for she has died in vain for her country."

On learning in his prison, the crime, the judgment and the death of Charlotte Corday, Vergniaud exclaimed, "She kills us, but she teaches us how to die."

### MISCELLANY.

#### *Danger of permitting the Insane to have their liberty.*

A man by the name of Reed, says the Maysville, Ky. Eagle, and who was known to have paroxysms of insanity, recently killed a child of Mrs. Evans and cut off its head, saying he was commanded so to do by the Almighty. He justified the deed by remarking that he had as good a right as Herod to cut off a head. The unfortunate man is now in the Ohio State Lunatic Asylum, where we saw him a few weeks since.

A correspondent of the Worcester Transcript, writing

from Canaan, N. H. Nov. 23, 1847, gives us the following shocking intelligence:

Some fourteen years ago, a Capt. Elijah Whitter, living at the "Summit," four miles below here, killed a child of his with a gambrel. He was arrested and tried, and finally after a long imprisonment in the Haverhill Jail, was set at liberty, because he, at the time of doing the deed was considered insane.

Last Saturday morning he got up from his breakfast table, went to the door and took another young child of his two and a half years old by the legs and literally beat its brains out against the door stone. He is to be tried for the deed, but will doubtless be acquitted as formerly.

**ACQUITTED.**—Sarah Morrison was arraigned in our criminal court last Monday, charged with the murder of her step-mother. Our readers will remember the horrid affair—the girl having burned her mother to death, after having first disabled her by a blow on the head with the fire shovel. The girl gave the following account of the transaction; "You, know, father, you was tired of her and I was tired of her, and I thought I'd put her out of the way. Polly was reading her Bible, and I hit her a lick with the shovel, and she fell down in a fit, and I hit her again and put her into the fire—and we were short of wood and I put old clothes on—and we'll never see old Polly again." She was of course acquitted on the ground of idiocy—the proof on that subject being conclusive. During her imprisonment she was visited by a colored woman whom she persisted in calling her mother, whom she supposed to have been burned black by the process. The girl was remanded for future disposal of the court.—*Pittsburgh Journal*.

## NOTICE.

*Third Meeting of the Association of Medical Superintendents of American Institutions for the Insane.—*

Agreeably to adjournment, the Association of Medical Superintendents of American Institutions for the Insane, will convene at the Astor House in the City of New York, on Monday, the 8th day of May 1848, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

THOMAS S. KIRKBRIDE,

*Secretary.*

We take the liberty of adding to the foregoing advertisement the expression of our hope, that every Institution for the care of the Insane of this country and of the British Provinces, will be represented at the forthcoming meeting.

Agreeably to a resolution passed at the last meeting, every such Institution may be represented, even when there is no regularly appointed superintendent. The Resolution is as follows:

"Resolved, That in future every regularly constituted Institution for the Insane on this continent may have one representative in this Association,—that as heretofore, this shall be the Medical Superintendent where such officer exists, but in those institutions in which there is a different organization, it may be either of the regular medical officers who may find it most convenient to attend."

The members of the Association we trust, will not forget to comply with the requirements of the other resolutions passed at the last meeting, such as furnishing a view and ground plan of the institutions with which they are connected—a list of the suicides that have occurred in the States in which they reside, pathological observations, &c., as well as Reports on the various subjects assigned to them.

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*The Journal of Insanity.*—This number completes the fourth volume. The delay in issuing it, arose from the absence of the Editor, Dr. Brigham, on a Journey to the South and West. Editorial correspondence intended for this number must be deferred until the next.

We take this occasion, respectfully, but *earnestly* to entreat all those who are indebted for the Journal, to remit what is due without delay.



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